



THE TIMES Tomorrow

Hellfire... Enoch Powell explains why there is no hellfire for the damned



...and damnation

The White Paper spelling out the Government's plans to abolish the GLC and six metropolitan counties

Digging in

Has smallholding survived? John Young on the ones who got away

Sloping off

Rupert Morris gets the best of Chamonix

Horsing around

Jenny MacArthur on the Horse of the Year Show

Freeze on telephone charges

British Telecom will not raise telephone charges for a year after a proposed 2.9 per cent increase in November. The promise follows criticism of the planned increase by the Post Office Users' National Council

Ciskei's reign of terror

Violence, repression and torture are endemic in Ciskei, one of South Africa's black homelands, according to a report released this week. Up to 90 people have died recently, it is claimed

FT pay deal

Journalists at the Financial Times called off disruptive action after accepting a 6.7 per cent pay rise, worth a minimum of £1,000 a year

Abortion law

Spain's socialist Government passed an abortion Bill last night which rules that abortion, in certain circumstances, is no longer a criminal offence

Share in Spurs

Tottenham Hotspur Football Club's stock market share issue was more than four times oversubscribed and attracted more than £15m cash from club fans and City investors

REALLY - Those CORONATION STREET people!

SHOCK! LOVE CHILD!

Cars judged

A survey of 25,000 members of which finds German and Japanese cars have pleased most and Italian ones pleased least. Vauxhall does best of British made cars

Palmer loses

Arnold Palmer staged a splendid battle before losing to the young Spaniard, Severiano Ballesteros in the Suntory World Matchplay championships at Wentworth

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Leading articles: Neil Kinnock; Cecil Parkinson; Argentina

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Love affair puts Parkinson's future in doubt

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, yesterday attempted to brave the scandal created by his own announcement that he was the father of a baby expected next January by his former secretary, Miss Sara Keays.

He announced just before midnight on Wednesday that in spite of a previously expressed wish to marry Miss Keays, it had now been decided that he would remain with his wife.

Yesterday, before leaving his London home for his departmental office, he said that his marriage would survive. "We will get over it", he said.

He later attended the normal Thursday Cabinet meeting and a Downing Street lunch in honour of the deputy prime minister of Iraq, before returning to his Victoria Street office to work on ministerial papers.

Downing Street emphasized again that the Prime Minister viewed the matter as a "private" Government. Sir Nicholas Parkinson would still be addressing next week's Conservative Party conference, when he is billed to reply to a Thursday afternoon debate on "Free enterprise and industry".

Nevertheless, senior Conservatives remained sceptical about the "high risk" strategy being pursued by Mrs Margaret Thatcher and her trusted colleague. It was felt that if media attention continued to focus on Mr Parkinson, Miss Keays and, next year, the baby itself, it was difficult to see how the minister could possibly survive.

The Prime Minister may have been informed of Mr Parkinson's long-standing affair with Miss Keays by either the Home Secretary or the director-general of the Security Service at the time of the minister's inclusion in the Falklands war Cabinet in April last year.

Mrs Thatcher ruled after the Stuart affair, in November 1979 that: "The director-general should report to the Home Secretary if he receives information about a present or former minister or senior public servant indicating that he may be, or may have been, a security risk, unless circumstances are so exceptional that he judges it necessary to report direct to the Prime Minister."

Mr Parkinson yesterday overruled the recommendation of the Director General of Fair Trading to refer a proposed takeover, for part of Ranks Hovis McDougall, to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Mr Parkinson, whose predecessor, Lord Cockfield, made several controversial decisions, had earlier said he would seek to follow the advice of the director general, Sir Gordon Bore.

Neither Downing Street nor the Home Office was willing yesterday to be drawn on the possible security aspects of Mr Parkinson's affair.

In his report on the Profumo affair in 1963, Lord Denning said: "My opinion is that any alibi or discreditable conduct is only a security risk if it is committed in such circumstances that it might expose the person concerned to blackmail or undue pressures."

"I would not ordinarily regard adultery as a security risk when committed clandestinely with a person who was not likely to resort to blackmail. Much must depend, however, on the circumstances."

Given that Mr Parkinson had access to the most sensitive military and diplomatic information at the time of the Falklands crisis, the Security Service would have had special cause to ensure that the particular circumstances of Mr Parkinson's relationship were understood by the Home Secretary, then Mr William Whitelaw, or by the Prime Minister.

Mrs Thatcher's distaste for scandal or even the hint of sexual transgression by members of her frontbench team is well-known in Whitehall and Westminster. She has dismissed men from her team, and has failed to promote others, at the slightest hint of domestic difficulty.

In that regard the Prime Minister undoubtedly reflects the moral code of her own party rank-and-file, but she is also acutely conscious of the political consequences of public scandal.

The fact that Mr Parkinson's resignation was not required is therefore seen as a measure of Mrs Thatcher's undoubted liking and respect for one of her own inner circle in the cabinet.

But last month's announcement of a replacement of Mr Parkinson as Conservative Party chairman may well have been a calculated attempt at damage limitation, particularly if Mrs Thatcher had early warning of Miss Keays's pregnancy.

Mr Parkinson is due to speak tonight to a parliamentary dinner club at Eastbourne. On Sunday, October 16, after next week's Conservative Party Conference at Blackpool, he will leave for visits to the United States and Japan where he will discuss investment by American and Japanese companies in Britain.

Continued on back page, col 1

No foreign firms for Exchange

The London Stock Exchange is unlikely to allow foreign companies to take over any of its member firms, despite moves to ease entry under reform plans agreed with the Government.

Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Exchange, said yesterday: "The Stock Exchange, he said, had 'not yet thought through' its attitude towards foreign ownership of stockbroking firms. Overseas interests can acquire a maximum of 29.9 per cent of a member company at present. Total control could be exercised by several overseas interests, but the Exchange would prohibit those interests working in concert."

He would also want foreign firms to sell any holding over the permitted level that came from a takeover or merger between stockbrokers.

There would be no rules, however, to prevent a foreign brokerage house from acquiring a minority stake in several different firms.

Business News, page 17

Treasury claims challenged

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Claims by Treasury ministers that without severe pruning of state spending taxes may have to rise steeply over the coming decade are challenged today by the independent Institute for Fiscal Studies. Such claims are "seriously misleading", it says.

Detailed calculations by the IFS suggest that, even on unfavourable assumptions, the Government can easily afford to finance present programmes with existing levels of taxation.

In confidential documents drawn up for the Cabinet last year, disclosed exclusively in *The Times* on June 30, 1982, officials predicted that if the economy failed to grow, income tax might have to rise by 15p in the pound or VAT be doubled to prevent the gap between state

New structure for big city councils

By David Walker

The White Paper envisages that many of the assets belonging to the GLC and the Metropolitan Counties - possibly including London's County Hall - are to be sold. The Thames Water Authority is to take over responsibility for the barrier across the river at Woolwich and flood prevention in the GLC area.

A special commission for town and country planning in the capital may be established to look after the green belt, but it is expected that the GLC's responsibility for major roads will pass to the Department of Transport.

In the conurbations, the White Paper suggests that individual districts, such as Birmingham or Manchester, should assume responsibility on behalf of others in managing services such as refuse disposal.

But in the main it is the district councils which are to inherit the functions of the present Metropolitan Counties.

Even on the Treasury's most gloomy assumptions for the economy - with growth slowing to 1 per cent a year in the second half of the decade - the Institute calculates that in 1990 state borrowing will take only a slightly higher share of economic output than today.

Assuming quite rapid growth of 2½ per cent a year between now and 1990, the Treasury expects state borrowing to fall to 2 per cent of output, while the IFS predicts that the Government will actually be in surplus, with revenues exceeding spending.

Report extracts, page 5

Petrol prices to fall this winter

By Kenneth Gosling

On the eve of the tenth anniversary of independent local radio, one of the network's 43 stations, Centre Radio at Leicester, has gone into voluntary liquidation, the first to cease trading since commercial radio began. The closure means the number of stations is reduced temporarily from 43 to 42.

It was "very much regretted" by the Independent Broadcasting Authority, which will re-advertise the contract as soon as possible.

Listeners in the Leicester area will be able to hear programmes relayed by one of the oldest stations, Radio Trent at Nottingham, once arrangements have been made for the signal to be transmitted there.

Centre Radio's backers raised £750,000 to set up the station two years ago. A rescue bid by

local businessmen failed when the IBA refused to allow a new consortium to take over because it had not been given enough information and that the bid would have amounted to the station being taken over by a completely new company.

As a result the board of directors said yesterday that they had no alternative but to cease trading. A meeting of creditors and shareholders will be held at a future date.

Mr Tony Cook, the station's head of news, said Centre Radio had lost £250,000 in its first year and £125,000 in the second. "We are now trading at just below break even level," he said.

"Our failure stems from our

early losses being so enormous - we were always battling against that, but our local sales force had been doing tremendously well and this side had been improving enormously but it was too late to do any good."

The station has been without a managing director for the past few weeks since Mr Maurice Bass left to take a similar post at Radio Luxembourg. "A good part of our turnaround in fortunes was due to him," Mr Cook said.

It was emphasized yesterday that although 24 independent stations are still less than three years old, all are in a healthy state. It is estimated that more than 20m people tune into the stations every week.

Leicester's local radio station signs off

By Kenneth Gosling

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Man of the moment: Mr Kinnock making his keynote speech yesterday.

Confident Shergar owners add to reward

By John Witherow

The owners of kidnapped racehorse Shergar believe he is still alive and have increased the reward for the £100,000 winner to more than £100,000.

Some of them, including the Aga Khan and Swiss industrialist Walter Haefliger, met in Paris at the weekend with a representative of Lloyd's of London, which has paid out £7m and is now technically owner of the stallion.

They agreed to increase the reward money to a six-figure sum in return for Shergar's safe return and the conviction of the kidnappers who took the horse from his stable in Newbridge, Co Kildare, eight months ago.

A Lloyd's spokesman said: "We believe the horse is still alive and felt that the trail was getting colder and colder. By increasing the reward we hope to flush out the kidnappers."

He added that the group would meet again in either London or Paris within three weeks to decide on the precise amount of money. At present there are two rewards: one of £50,000 offered by the Irish Thoroughbred Breeders' Association and one of £10,000 put up by Sporting Life.

The new reward would take the total on offer to well over £100,000.

But he emphasized that this did not indicate there had been contact with the kidnappers. The clause demanding the conviction of the kidnappers drew criticism yesterday from Shergar's vet Mr Stanley Cosgrove. "The bigger ransom might tempt someone to talk, but the proviso of conviction is stupid," he said. "It is quite unlikely a conviction could be obtained."

Lloyd's responded by saying the owners and the underwriters "would not be ungenerous" if they recovered the horse without arresting the kidnappers, but the reward money would probably be smaller.

Since Shergar's disappearance the hunt has been bedevilled by hoaxes, clues from clairvoyants and persistent rumours that the Ballymany stud was having secret negotiations.

Various theories maintain that Shergar died accidentally at the hands of his captors or was killed as a malicious act against his owners, but there remains a belief in racing circles that he is still alive.

Mr Cosgrove commented: "If the horse were dead we would have got evidence that he was dead, so I think he is still alive."

Although Lloyd's has paid out £7m in insurance, £2m worth of the horses value was not covered by any policy while £200,000 will only be paid if he is proved to be dead.

Irish police maintain the hunt is continuing, but admits there have been no new leads for several months.

Kinnock in plea for health service

From Julian Haviland, Political Editor, Brighton

Mr Neil Kinnock, the new leader of the Labour Party, yesterday appealed to people of all parties and hopes to join with Labour in defence of the National Health Service, "the fundamental, essential health service without which this country ceases to be civilized."

He promised the Labour conference in Brighton that his first act when the leadership passes to him today would be to write to the Prime Minister and demand an early debate in Parliament on the cuts in the health service.

Mr Kinnock, who was making his first conference speech since his brief acknowledgement of his election on Sunday, said that although they meant to expose the harm done to the health service, they knew what the Government's response would be: that the resources needed could not be afforded until the country was more efficient.

And starting from there he set Labour's social values against his idea of Conservative ones: redefining efficiency, realism and finally patriotism in a long passage which brought the conference to its feet.

It was not efficiency which reduced investment and drove capital abroad, he said. It was economic treachery.

He had had enough of dreamers like Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Sir Keith Joseph, who believed recovery could come from mass bankruptcies. Realists knew they must produce their way out of slump, and that production needed investment and demand.

Mr Kinnock said that the kind of patriotism which the people of Britain felt was "the

patriotism of peace, care, justice, liberty and confidence". He wondered that "blimpy patriots" like Mrs Thatcher, who took millions from the caring services, did not choke on the word patriotism.

The speech was important and the speaker nervous, but he need not have worried. The audience was with him, and it was notable that he drew applause from each section of it - constituency parties and trade unions as well as MPs - which leaders have not always achieved.

Mr Roy Hattersley, his deputy, said that the speech was marvellous.

Conference reports 4

Leading article 15

Benn loses 'Unionist veto' fight

By Philip Webster

The Labour conference in Brighton yesterday decisively rejected a reversal of party policies proposed by Mr Wedgwood Benn, but opposed by the national executive, to end the Unionist veto on progress towards a united Ireland.

Mr Benn angered his fellow NEC members by moving the policy switch from the conference floor as a constituency party delegate. He was bitterly attacked during a bad-tempered debate by Mr Don Connonan, Labour's Northern Ireland spokesman.

Mr Connonan was hissed, booed and slow handclapped, mainly by constituency delegates, as he defended the party's policy of unification only by consent but Mr Benn, in a rare conference defeat, was beaten by the votes of the big unions.

His motion was rejected by 4,656,000 votes to 913,000.



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Telecom answers critics by promising freeze on telephone charges

By Bill Johnston, Electronics Correspondent

Telephone charges are to be held for a year after the proposed rise of 2.9 per cent in November.

The announcement made by British Telecom yesterday came in the wake of an attack by the Post Office Users' National Council on the increases, which were described by the council as unnecessary and unjustifiable at this time. The council called for a deferment until April next year.

The proposed increase is weighted in favour of the business user, with the increase split 3.2 per cent on the residential customer and 2.7 per cent on business. The corporation claims that it cannot

continue to hold charges at present levels and also meet financial targets set by the Government.

In a statement yesterday the users' council said: "While we have sympathy with British Telecom having to carry this additional financial burden, we believe that it should be able to generate the additional revenue required from further internal economies. The revenue gained from the price increase would be very small in relation to turnover and operating costs, and should be attainable from such efficiency measures."

British Telecom reported a profit for the last financial year of £365m in July. At the time

the corporation confirmed that there would be no increases before November, but emphasized that such a freeze could not continue.

It reacted to the council's criticisms by saying in a statement: "This additional income is needed in the current year to meet the various financial objectives set by the Government, to provide a sound financial basis for the continual development and improvement of services, and to continue the major investment in Britain's telecommunications network - currently running at nearly £2,000m a year."

It is the Government's intention to begin selling 51 per cent of British Telecom to the private sector next autumn.

British Telecom yesterday stepped up disciplinary action against telephone engineers taking "guerrilla" industrial action, in the wake of the legal action mounted against union leaders by the private enterprise Mercury Communications (Our Labour Correspondent writes). More than 40 engineers, most of them at one of the main international exchanges in London, were sent home for refusing to carry out instructions they claimed were contrary to the policy of their union.

Canadian challenge

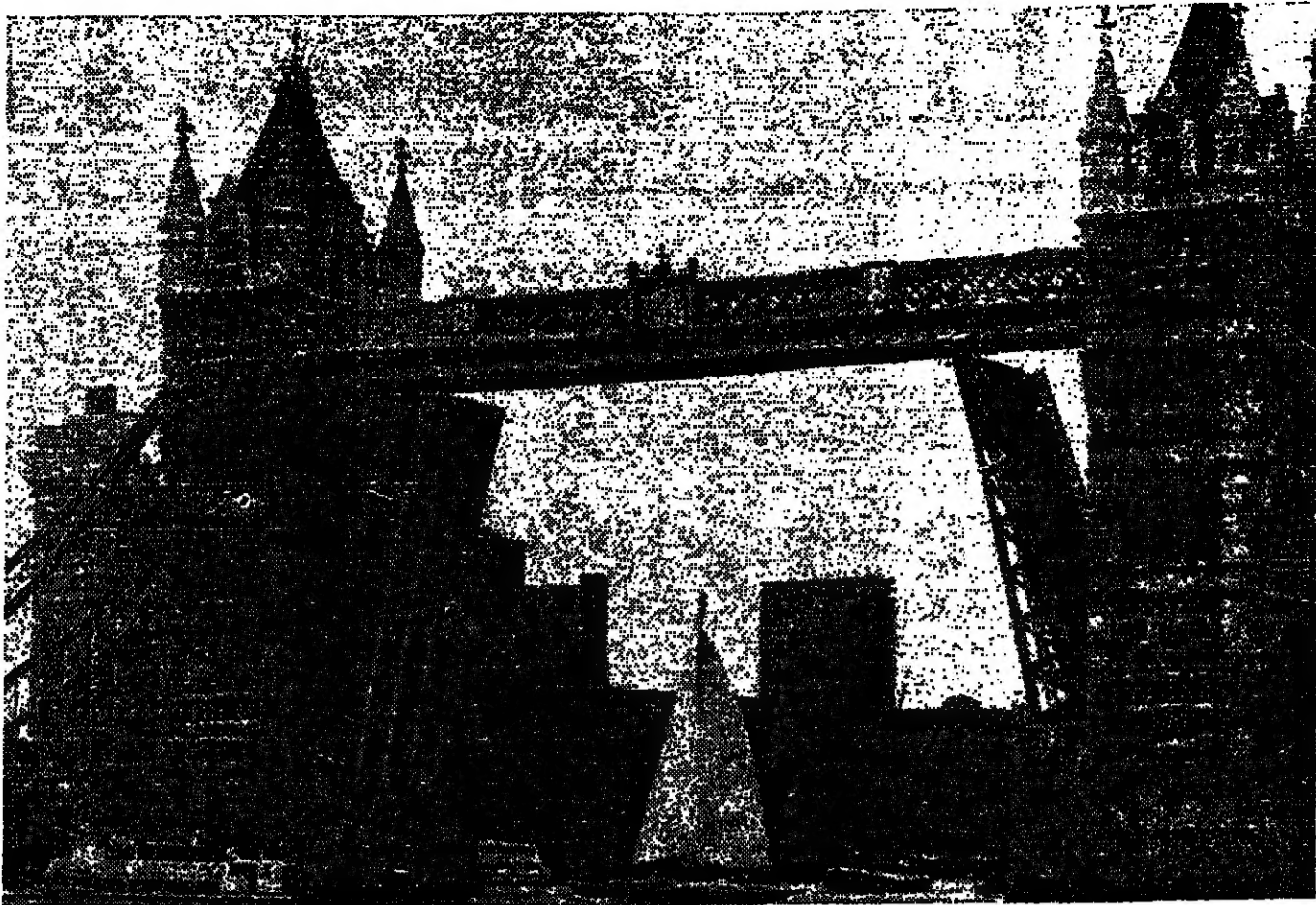
By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

Northern Telecom, the Canadian telecommunications company, is moving into Britain with the intention of winning orders from British Telecom for public telephone exchanges.

Mr Walter Light, chief executive of Northern Telecom, said in London yesterday that the company would recruit about 220 people within a year, mainly highly skilled engineers. Most will work at Hemel Hempstead,

the manufacturing and product development centre, but 70 will go to a new research lab.

The immediate capital investment will be about £6m and Mr Light expects sales to reach £200m a year and the United Kingdom workforce 2,500 within five years. He made clear that that would depend on Northern Telecom selling exchanges on a significant scale to British Telecom, a market dominated by GEC, Plessey and STC.



Raising hopes: Chay Blyth leaving London for New York in his 65ft trimaran, Beebeater, yesterday. On November 11 he will begin an attempt to break the record of 89 days 21 hours for the New York-San Francisco passage via Cape Horn

Regional arts may be funded centrally

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

Selected regional arts organizations could be funded by the Government after the abolition of the metropolitan county councils, which at present provide almost £12m in grants.

They are likely to be included on a list of companies drawn up for special consideration, reflecting the concern of Lord Gowrie, Minister for the Arts, for their future.

Among those which could qualify for special treatment are the Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester, the Hallé Orchestra, The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, the Walker Art Gallery on Merseyside, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and Opera North in West Yorkshire.

The Greater London Council, also due for abolition, has a budget for grants to cultural bodies of more than £7m, which does not include the cost of the South Bank halls, which the GLC owns and runs at a net cost of some £4m a year.

The White Paper, on the abolition of the authorities is to be published today, with a consultative document about its effect on the arts expected later.

EXAMPLES OF METROPOLITAN COUNTY COUNCIL ARTS GRANTS 1983-84

	£000s
Greater Manchester Museum of Science and Industry	573
Royal Exchange Theatre	351
Hallé Orchestra	283
Northern Ballet Theatre	230
Merseyside Liverpool Playhouse	91
Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra	82
Beaumonts Museum	208
Walker Art Gallery	1,112
South Yorkshire Sheffield Crucible	64
Theatre Vanguard	8.6
Sheffield Bach Society	4.6
Tyne and Wear Northern Sinfonia	88.7
Sunderland Empire	217
Newcastle Theatre Royal	185
Whitby Bay Playhouse	28.9
West Midlands City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra	286
English Philharmonic Orchestra	55
Black Country Museum	47.2
Birmingham Railway Museum	40
West Yorkshire Opera North	100
Leeds Theatre Trust	50
Greater London English National Opera	975
London Festival Ballet	825
London Orchestra Concerts Board	725
National Theatre	781

Police death family sentenced

A man, his son and daughter were convicted yesterday of the killing of Detective-Sergeant Ross Hunt, aged 56. They had used knives, poles and broom handles.

At the High Court in Glasgow, Hugh Murray, aged 51, was sentenced to life imprisonment with his married daughter, Margaret Smith, aged 23. Hugh Murray, aged 16, was ordered to be detained without limit.

Another son, James Murray, aged 28, who had been charged with the attempted murder of Detective-Constable Duncan Nicolson was convicted on a reduced charge of serious assault and sentenced to three years' imprisonment.

Mr William Murray, aged 20, was cleared of all charges.

Authorities claim health cuts will exceed target

By Nicholas Timmins

Many hundreds more health service jobs will have to be cut by March than the total of almost 5,000 that ministers set in their manpower targets, health authorities believe.

The reason is ministers' refusal to allow for unfilled vacancies at March 31 this year, the date from which the cuts were implemented, and discrepancies between health authorities figures for occupied posts at that date, and the figures they have been given to work on.

Brighton Health Authority, which under the figures handed down from the Department of Health makes a nominal gain of four jobs, has calculated it will have to cut several dozen jobs because it has filled vacant posts since March.

Merton and Sutton Health Authority says it will have to

cut about 200 jobs, rather than the 152 it has been asked to. The authority is to consider the cuts at a meeting next week, but administrators said yesterday that 60 nurses' jobs would have to go in the district.

Bloomsbury Health Authority in London has joined Wandsworth and the Richmond, Twickenham and Roehampton Health Authority in taking no action yet on the manpower cuts, and West Lambeth Health Authority, which includes St Thomas's teaching hospital, may join four others next week.

Seven of its 16 authority members have proposed a motion rejecting the cuts which the Brent, Islington, Sheffield and Northumberland authorities have already voted not to implement.

Checks on concrete slab homes

The Government has asked for more safety checks on council houses and flats built on the Bison concrete slab system of the 1960s. Some slabs have fallen off, mostly, ministers think, through mistakes in building.

Local authorities which have any of the estimated 50,000 Bison homes in their area were asked yesterday to "satisfy themselves, if they have not done so already" that they are safe, and to report back within six weeks. Private owners were also urged to check.

Wickenden air crash verdict

A verdict of accidental death was recorded at the inquest on Mr Keith Wickenden, chairman of European Ferries, and a former Conservative MP, who died when the light aircraft he was flying crashed at Shoreham Airport, Sussex, in July.

Mr Wickenden was testing a replacement engine on the twin-engine aircraft. A witness told the inquest at Worthing, Sussex, that he saw smoke coming from the engine as it took off.

Bombing materials found in prison

From Our Correspondent, Belfast

Bomb-making materials were found yesterday inside Magilligan prison, co Londonderry, the second find this week. They came to light a short time before the prison staff began a sit-in to protest against the presence of a time and motion expert in a visiting Northern Ireland Office, management team.

Last night the warders returned to normal working after talks on the demands.

For hours, while warders occupied their canteen, leaving only a skeleton staff on guard, all 450 inmates were locked in their cells and their intended visitors turned away.

Since Monday the Magilligan warders have been refusing to man prison workshops as a protest against what they claim was lax security. That had led to prisoners spending more time confined to their cells.

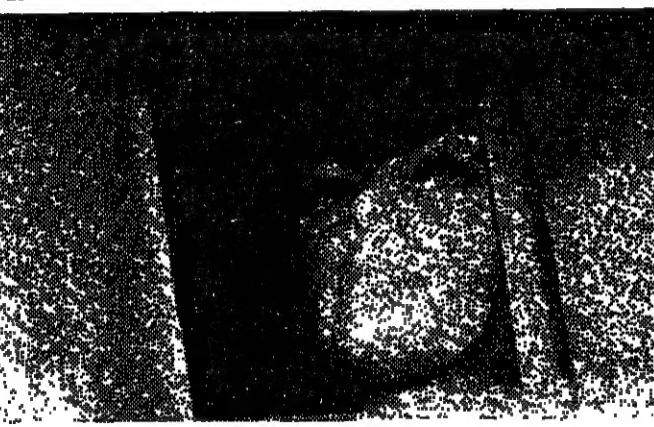
The suspect materials found yesterday, in the prison gymnasium were two watches

for possible use as timers, electrical wire and camera flashbulbs.

On Monday, two ounces of commercial gelignite was found in a workshop hidden in a cavity between blocks of mahogany that had been glued together.

The Army yesterday denied suggestions from the Rev Ian Paisley that tailors' dummies clad in military gear were used in the military-manned watch towers around the Maze prison.

But initial denials that the so-called "sleeping sentries" were used anywhere in Northern Ireland were withdrawn after it was pointed out that one such dummy was photographed in a pill box beside Palace Barracks near Belfast, and the photograph was published in July. Military sources now admit that a small number of such dummies has occasionally been used, but in conjunction with manned sentry guard posts.



The dummy, in uniform, at Palace barracks, near Belfast

Straw fires policy reversed

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

The Countryside Commission reversed its policy on straw burning yesterday and called for a ban in three years. The commission was previously a strong supporter of voluntary controls and helped to write and revise the voluntary code of practice adopted by the National Farmers' Union.

Last month Mr Derek Barber, chairman of the commission, said he believed that straw burning after harvest might be banned after a period long enough for alternative methods of disposal to be found.

But the full commission, which has farmer members, took a tougher line, and decided to advise ministers that the practice should be phased out in three years because the voluntary code had not worked.

A commission spokesman said that monitoring by regional offices had shown that some farmers did not follow the code while others did not use it properly. In recent summers several road accidents have been blamed on straw fire which resulted in smoke blowing across busy roads.

Ford lays off 4,000 in delivery strike

Ford laid off 4,000 employees at its Halewood car plant on Merseyside last night because a five-week strike by delivery drivers is choking the plant with unsold cars.

At the same time Ford blamed the dispute for its poor sales performance last month when Austin Rover replaced it as market leader for the first time in five years.

The strike began when drivers employed by Silcock and Colling walked out in protest against planned redundancies. Since then the men's demands have been stepped up

to include higher payments for moving the resulting backlog of 13,000 cars. The company delivers 60 per cent of Halewood's Escorts and the new Orion.

The indefinite lay-off affects just under half the plant's employees. Ford said the breakdown in deliveries to dealers had come at the worst possible time. They were already short of new cars after the biggest August sales on record.

Last month however Austin Rover took 20.08 per cent of the new car registrations

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More holiday price cuts

Rank Travel, Britain's fourth largest foreign package holidays operator is cutting the price of its winter holidays to match competition.

The company, which controls OSL, Wings and Ellerman Sunflights, is reducing some packages by £35, and undertakes to refund the difference if customers can find the same holiday for less elsewhere. Rank is also likely to cut prices in its 1984 summer brochures.

Teenage gang assaults girl

The police were seeking about 25 youths yesterday after a sexual assault on a girl aged 18 in Nottingham.

Two girls aged 18 were walking home when the gang, aged between 14 and 18, chased them along Forest Road into Leekdale Street. One girl escaped; the other was pushed to the ground and assaulted. Afterwards she was helped by a woman passer-by whom police are trying to trace.

Dockyard wins tall ships race

Chatham Dockyard, closed after 400 years as a naval base, is to host the tall ships race in the summer of 1985.

Rochester City Council, Medway Ports Authority, Gillingham Council, and the development group English Industrial Estates believe it is a chance to advertise the dockyard, which is being turned into a £10m historic trust.

It is hoped that several old ships will be on permanent display.

Overseas selling prices
 Australia \$10.00; Canada \$12.50; Caribbean \$15.00; Cyprus \$20.00; France \$15.00; Germany \$15.00; Greece \$15.00; Italy \$15.00; Japan \$15.00; Korea \$15.00; Luxembourg \$15.00; Malaysia \$15.00; Mexico \$15.00; Netherlands \$15.00; New Zealand \$15.00; Norway \$15.00; Pakistan \$15.00; Portugal \$15.00; Singapore \$15.00; Sweden \$15.00; Switzerland \$15.00; Taiwan \$15.00; Thailand \$15.00; USA \$15.00; Yugoslavia \$15.00.

Navy ready to order new submarine class

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The Royal Navy hopes to place the order for the first of a new class of diesel-powered submarine within the next few weeks. The Type 2400 class will replace the Oberon class, which entered service during the 1960s.

The Type 2400 has been designed for use both in deep North Atlantic waters and in shallower continental shelf waters, its main task in war being to prevent Warsaw Pact submarines entering the Atlantic.

It will be almost the end of the decade before the first of the

new submarines is in service and the Navy appears to be thinking of having about ten in service by the end of the century.

Negotiations with Vickers, who will build the first of the Type 2400s at a cost of more than £80m, are still in progress.

Compared with the Oberon class, the Type 2400 will be faster and quieter, have more sensitive sonar detection systems, and be capable of diving to a greater depth.

With a crew of about 44, it will carry at least 30 fewer men than the Oberon.

Financial Times journalists settle pay deal

By Paul Rontledge, Labour Editor

Journalists at the Financial Times accepted a 6.7 per cent pay rise yesterday that will take their average salary to about £19,200 a year.

Members of the National Union of Journalists voted overwhelmingly to accept the company's "final" offer, which largely concedes their demand for a flat-rate increase and introduces a novel scheme for "portable" pensions.

The settlement follows limited industrial action that has delayed production of the newspaper.

In a package worth between 5 and 8.7 per cent to individuals the NUJ has negotiated a minimum increase of £1,000 a year.

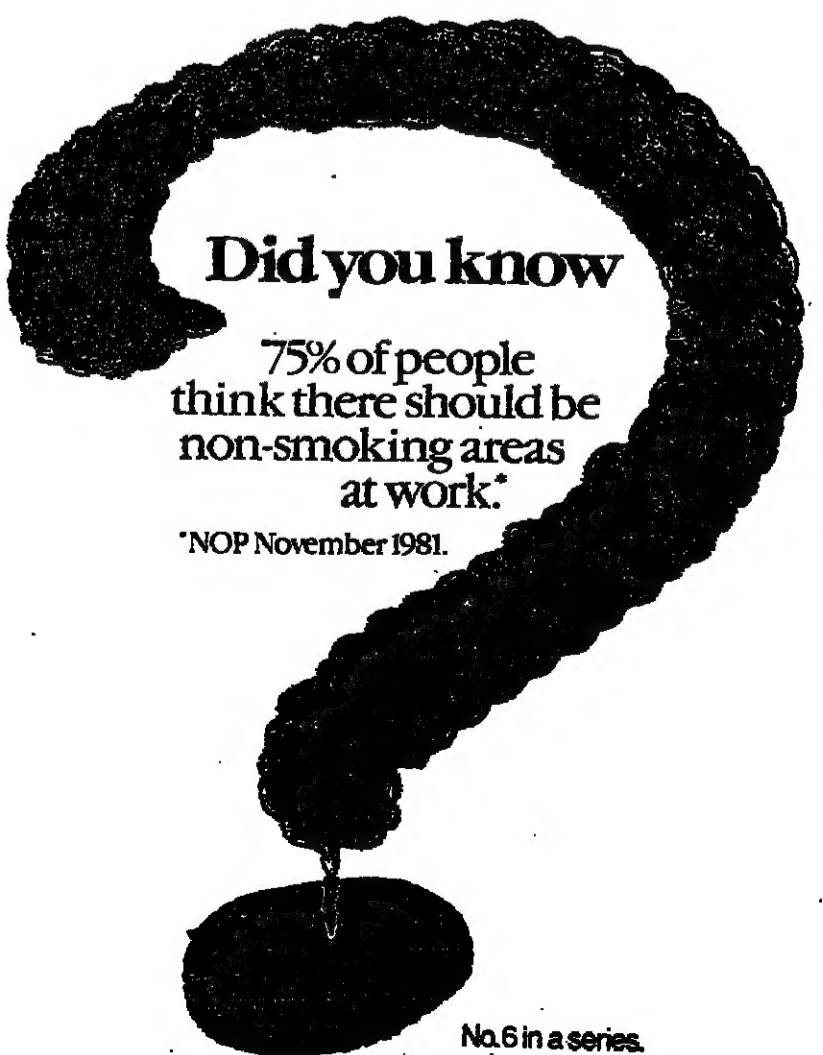
Talks are now expected to begin on a redundancy deal based on provisions at least as good as those contained in printworkers' agreements, and on separate pension arrangements for "job mobile" journalists for the first time in Fleet Street.

Speaking up for smokers.

Did you know

75% of people think there should be non-smoking areas at work.

*NOP November 1981.



THE HEALTH EDUCATION COUNCIL
 78 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1AH.

Executive pay rises well ahead of inflation, but starting to level off

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

The salaries of British managers rose at more than twice the inflation rate in the year to July, although the rate of increase appears to be coming down slowly.

The figures emerged yesterday from the annual executive salary survey conducted by Imbucan, the management consultants. The average executive salary is now £1,305, and an increase of 9.5 per cent.

Take-home pay, after all deductions, is up 10.4 per cent, with a real gain after taking inflation into account of £703 or 6 per cent. It was one of the biggest annual gains shown in the survey since it began 22 years ago.

The rate of increase is coming down slowly. Mr Nigel Bryant, manager of Imbucan's salary research unit, said: "Last year the average increase was around 11 per cent and now it has shaded down to just over 9 per cent. I get the feeling it could be at around 8 per cent in a year's time."

Despite the increases, the average executive is still 9 per

cent worse off in real terms, than 10 years ago, the survey showed. Mr Bryant said: "Managers have not been uniquely feather-bedded. The manual worker in percentage terms has done better."

Average salaries for the various managerial grades are: managing directors £31,177; directors £22,141; purchasing directors £21,905; company secretaries £20,337; senior production executives £18,616; financial executives £17,663; personnel executives £17,592; sales executives £16,494; data processing heads £15,912; data systems managers £13,984; chief engineers £13,775; distribution executives £13,442; cost accountants £12,045; senior data analysts £11,317.

More executives than before are getting fringe benefits like free medical insurance and five or more weeks holiday. But the dispensation of company cars may have reached its upper limit. In the past year 77 per cent of executives surveyed had company cars, a drop of 1 per cent on the previous year, after

a climb from 62 per cent in 1976.

The longer holidays are now well established, with 67 per cent of executives getting five weeks or more against 42 per cent in 1980. Free medical insurance is enjoyed by 65 per cent although that brings a taxation penalty.

A minority, 36 per cent, get bonuses. The average was £1,969, or 11 per cent of basic salary.

There was a wide spread of increases for individual managers. Out of those surveyed 18 per cent saw rises of up to 5 per cent, 48 per cent got between 5 and 10 per cent and 34 per cent received increases of more than 10 per cent.

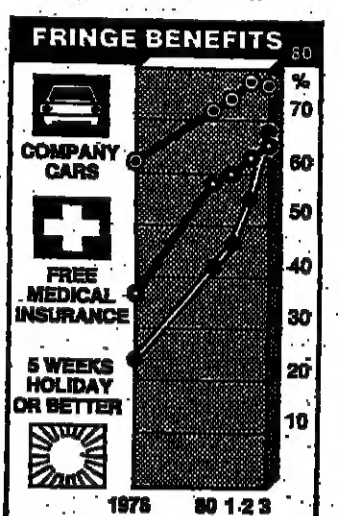
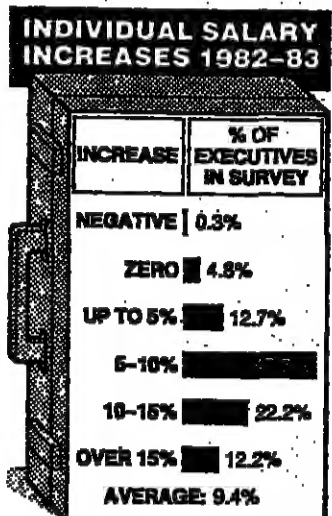
Only four main industrial sectors paid over the salary increase norm: food, drink, and tobacco; chemical and allied industries; construction; and the distributive trades.

The results of the survey as it applied to Scotland were given in Glasgow yesterday. A total of 606 Scottish executives in 53 companies took part.

Scottish salaries lagged behind the rest of the United Kingdom. Mr Hugh Hunter, head of Imbucan's Scottish operation, said the average salary of a Scottish executive was £17,176 (£12,369 after tax) compared with £15,790 gross (£11,276 net) a year earlier. Taking into account the retail price index rise of 4.2 per cent, this shows a gain in purchasing power of about £620 for the year.

Scottish executives also enjoy fewer fringe benefits. Only 25.5 per cent for the rest of the United Kingdom.

22nd Imbucan Annual Survey of Executive Salaries and Fringe Benefits in the UK. (Imbucan, Salary Research Unit, 197 Knightsbridge, London SW7 1RN; £110.)



£8,356 for dismissed RAC man

By Craig Seton

The Royal Automobile Club has been told to pay one of its former salesmen £8,356 compensation for his dismissal, caused by his inability to recruit 700 new members for the motoring organization within a year.

The award was made by an industrial tribunal in Truro, Cornwall which was told by Mr David Dorrer, the salesman, that the Falklands conflict had been partly to blame for his failure to reach the target.

He was one of 10 RAC salesmen in Cornwall, where the RAF St Mawgan airfield and the Royal Navy's Culdroe helicopter base were two sales sites from which he was expected to obtain new members. Many men were away from the two airfields during the conflict.

The tribunal first heard Mr Dorrer's claim in May, when Mr John Foster, district secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union said in presenting his case: "In the circumstances it was an impossible target."

The RAC countered with a claim that Mr Dorrer, of Park Crescent, Penzance, had shown a lack of capability and had failed to look for other sites.

But in a reserved decision given two weeks later, the tribunal found that the dismissal had been unreasonable and unfair. The RAC and Mr Dorrer were asked to agree on compensation, but they had failed to do so. The tribunal has therefore fixed the compensation at £8,356, the maximum.

Mr Dorrer said: "The social security department is likely to claim some of it, as I have been drawing from them. It will still be well worth having, although I would rather not have been sacked."

Actor sues agents over dearth of TV work

Mr Leslie Phillips, the comedy actor, is suing his former television agents for not finding him work.

He claims he should have received minimum fees of £21,000 for seven television programmes over three years under a 1973 agreement with Stella Richman Productions.

Mr Phillips, aged 60, is alleging breach of contract in the High Court in London.

Agency to screen news

A televised printed news service for the home and office is to be offered by the Press Association (PA), the national news agency.

With a telephone and a viewing terminal users will be able to dial into Newsfile. They will, from January 1, be able to receive reports at the same time that they are being broadcast by teletext to newspaper offices

Italian cars are top of 'lemon' league

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

West German and Japanese cars are highly praised and Italian ones condemned as unreliable in the most extensive survey of car buying yet conducted by *Which?* magazine.

Based on the experience of 25,000 members of the Consumers' Association, the survey shows that the Audi 80, Honda Quintet and Vauxhall Astra are the favourites when bought new. Honda takes second place in the BNV 5 series as the most popular second-hand model.

No Italian car figures in the list of members' favourites, but Italian models head the list of "lemons", cars they most regret buying. The Fiat 131 and the Lancia Beta are the most criticised new cars, while the Fiat 126 and the Lancia Beta are regarded as the worst second-hand buys.

The Lancia Beta range, which was the subject of a buy-back campaign because of rust problems, went out of production earlier this year.

No Italian car appears among the 35 which the Consumers' Association's own tester selected as the best in their respective classes on road test results. The Alfa Romeo has a

mixed showing, being praised as "appealing to the keen driver" but criticized as one of the most unreliable and prone to rust.

Selected for special mention as the most unpleasant cars to drive are the Fiat Panda, Ford 1500, Peugeot 405, and the Skoda Estelle.

Vauxhall makes the best all-round showing of the United Kingdom-based car producers, underlining again its increasing popularity with British motorists. Ford is a close second, while BL cars have a mixed response. The Morris Ital/Marina, Rover, Austin Princess/Ambassador and Mini are awarded "lemons", in contrast to the newer Metro and Maestro models, which are among the best in their classes.

British owners of BMWs arriving in France are being warned by dockside police to take special precautions against car thieves. Some French hotels and restaurants are also displaying warning notices.

It seems that gangs are stealing BMW cars for shipment to the Middle East, where the Munich car has acquired a special cachet.

Motoring, page 23

THE FAVOURITE CARS			
(lowest regrets, % of owners)			
New	Used	New	Used
Audi 80	0	Volvo 240	2
Honda Quintet	0	Datsun Bluebird	3
Vauxh Astra 1300/1600	0	New Vaux Cavalier	3
Toyota Corolla	1	Old VW Passat	3
Honda Accord	1	Ford Granada	4
Mazda 323	2	Triumph Acclaim	4
Saab 900	2	Old VW Polo	4
Old VW Passat	2	Old VW Polo	4
New VW Passat	2	Ford Fiesta	5
		Ford Fiesta	5

LEAST FAVOURITE CARS			
New	Used	New	Used
Fiat 131	30	Talbot Avenger	17
Lancia Beta	26	Austin Princess	17
Morris Ital/Marina	25	Renault 14	17
New Ford Escort 1.1	25	Talbot Samba	17
Rover 3500	25	Alfa Romeo	17
Skoda Estelle	23	Chrysler Dyalne/CV	16
Ford Escort 2000	22	Talbot Horizon	16
Fiat 132	21	Renault 20/30	16
Austin Ambassador	19		
Austin Alleg 1.5/1.7	18		
Fiat Strada	18		

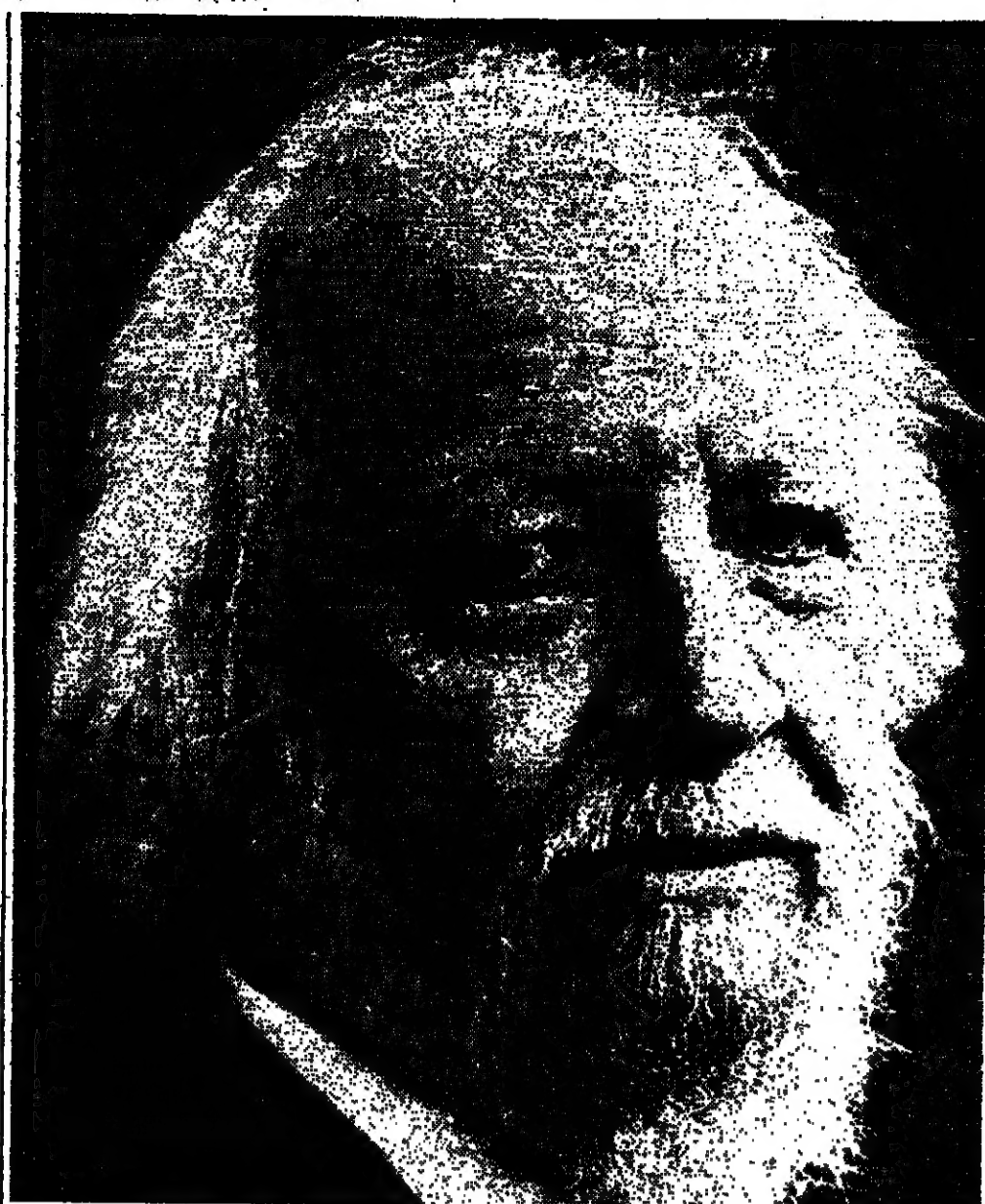
Appeals refused on McCullough contract killing

Muriel McCullough, a former beauty queen serving a life sentence for murder, after putting out an £8,000 "contract" on her husband's life, was refused leave by the Court of Appeal yesterday to appeal against her conviction.

Mrs McCullough, aged 53, was jailed at Birmingham Crown Court on December 17. Mr McCullough, aged 48, an insurance company executive, was shot twice through the head as he slept at their home in Cambridgeshire in November, 1981.

Joseph Scanlon, aged 47, a Liverpool businessman convicted with Mrs McCullough on the conspiracy charge and jailed for two years, was also refused leave to appeal.

Bernard Jones, aged 45, a welding inspector of Toxteth, Liverpool, was refused leave to appeal against his four-year jail sentence for his part in the conspiracy.



Golding: Moralist exploring evil through parable

William Golding (left), who has been awarded the 1983 Nobel prize for literature, has been put forward as the modern English novelist whose work is most likely to survive (Philip Howard, Literary Editor, writes).

All his work is concerned with good and evil, to inculcate a moral lesson, and he does it through parable and fable. He once said that the affliction he had to bear in life was "the inability to write poetry".

Instead, he has produced his novels, short stories and a play, all of which are concerned with "the terrible disease of being human". What his fiction has to say is that "man produces evil as a bee produces honey", and its aim is to make man face "The sad fact of his own cruelty and lust".

He came to the calling of fiction late - he was in his late 40s before he published his first novel - and he has not been prolific.

Mr Golding, who is 72, was born in Cornwall. His father, a teacher at Marlborough Grammar School, moved the family to Wiltshire, where the novelist still lives.

After Brasenose, Oxford, Mr Golding served in the Royal Navy during the Second World War, and developed his passion for Greek literature during his hours on watch. He spent some years as a

writer, actor and producer in small theatrical companies, until in 1954 *Lord of the Flies*, his Swiftian picture of how preparatory school boys would behave if stranded unsupervised on a desert island, made his name overnight.

The Inheritors (1955) is a lament for Neanderthal man, and another grim picture of Homo sapiens. *Pincher Martin* (1956) is about the experiences of an apparently drowned sailor. *Free Fall* (1959) investigates most directly Mr Golding's main theme, the inevitability of original sin. *The Spire* (1964) concerns a medieval dean who denies all reason by trying to add a spire to his cathedral. *The Pyramid* (1967) is his most realistic novel, about a boy growing up in a placid village, with the symbolism and myth less insistent than usual. *Darkness Visible* (1979), as the Miltonic title suggests, is a study of evil embodied in our world, opening with a child being mutilated in the blitz. *Rites of Passage* (1980) won the Booker McConnell prize. It is another powerful Golding parable of good and evil.

Mr Golding looks like an old sea dog, burly and bearded, and hale and hearty at 72. When he heard the news of the award at luncheon yesterday, he went out riding on the downs for the afternoon.

Choristers suspended

Choristers at St George's Church at Wilton in Somerset have been "suspended" for a month because their singing has been judged tired and without direction.

Mr Gordon Pointing, the choirmaster, plans to introduce new blood before the choir is allowed to sing again, but several members have said they will not go back.

Mr John Ford, a retired naval

lieutenant commander, a chorister for 20 years, said: "I am not going to be stood down, dismissed, suspended or disbanded and then expected to go back again. It is just not on."

The suspension was also a surprise for Mr Bill Oaten who in May celebrated his sixtieth year with the choir.

No comment was available from Mr Pointing or the vicar, the Rev John Pritchard.

Shot policeman 'could have died'

A policeman shot by David Martin could have died, a jury at the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday. Mr Kenneth Richardson, for the prosecution, said Constable Nicholas Carr possibly saved his own life by stemming the flow of blood from a wound in the groin.

Making his final speech to the jury on the twelfth day of the trial, Mr Richardson said PC

Carr was one of a number of "ordinary decent policemen doing their job" when he was shot after Martin had been discovered at the London offices of Colour Film Services.

Mr Martin of, Marylebone, London, denies grievous bodily harm to PC Carr on August 3 last year, and 13 other charges including robbery, burglary and having firearms to resist arrest. Mr Richardson said: "We

have listened in this case to suggestions which might leave some of you with the idea that it is perfectly normal to go around with loaded guns. The law in this country is not like that."

In his closing speech, Mr Ivan Lawrence, QC for the defence, admitted Mr Martin was "no knight in shining armour". But despite countless previous convictions, he had never tried to shoot anyone.

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INDEX-LINKED NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES

What Treasury team told the Cabinet

Public spending bound to grow

The report considers the way in which the costs of the Government's public expenditure policies could develop over the rest of the decade, against the background of some assumptions about economic developments over this period.

Two economic scenarios are considered. In the longer term implications of the Government's public expenditure stance, the report first adopts a set of assumptions about productivity, inflation, growth and unemployment which would represent a substantial and continuing improvement on our recent national economic performance. This is Scenario A.

The assumptions are that inflation will fall and remain at a modest level, that wage restraint, combined with lower tax rates and increasing rates of productivity, will produce a substantial and continuing improvement on our recent national economic performance. This is Scenario A.

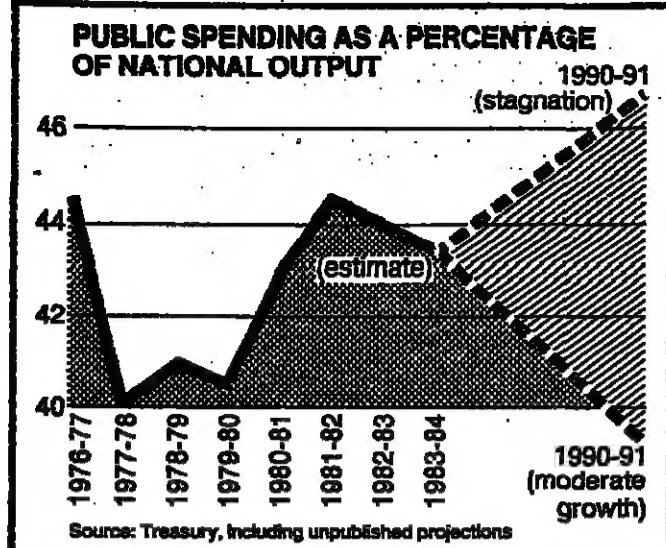
But things may not turn out like this. The United Kingdom has long suffered from low efficiency and poor productivity, and there is still much to do to improve the flexibility and performance of the economy. We are highly dependent on what happens in the world economy.

It is accordingly necessary to look at public expenditure against the background of much less favourable economic assumptions than in scenario A. In scenario B, the main differences from scenario A relate to productivity growth (1.5 per cent instead of 3 per cent per year in the decade to 1990), gdp growth (0.75 to 0.5 per cent instead of 2.5 per cent) and unemployment and inflation (which stick around their present levels instead of coming down).

Public expenditure projections. In making the public expenditure projections it has been assumed that the Government will continue to constrain the size of the public sector by

Last autumn the Treasury presented the Cabinet with a gloomy paper from officials drawn up earlier in the year, suggesting that public spending could rise steeply if the economy failed to grow in the year ahead. If the Government wanted to keep public borrowing down that could mean big increases in taxation. Extracts from the

confidential document, details of which were disclosed in *The Times* on June 30, 1982, are reprinted below. In his accompanying note to ministers, Sir Geoffrey Howe, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, issued a warning that the Government could not rely on fast growth to "float us over the rock" and urged "radical decisions" on spending



privatization and restraint on expenditure. Allowance has been made for changes in the public's demand for some of the public services, notably health, education, and environmental services, and for increasing real social security benefits. (Social security benefits, for example, are assumed to increase by less than earnings.)

International evidence suggests that this demand could increase on a significant scale. The Government is not obliged to meet it and may decide to divert it into privately provided services. But the scope for such diversion is limited over this period. And local authority expenditure, although projected to continue its relative decline may continue to be difficult to control.

In cost terms, the 1990-91 programme total in scenario A is 20 per cent higher than it was in 1979-80. In scenario B it is 18 per cent higher. As a percentage of gdp the total in scenario A falls, compared with 1979-80, by a little over one percentage point, taking it back to where it stood in 1971-72. In scenario B it increases by nearly six percentage points.

Comparison of 1990-91 with 1982-83 shows the programme total in cost terms at nearly 14 per cent higher in scenario A and 13 per cent higher in scenario B, as a percentage of gdp the totals nearly four points lower in scenario A and 3 points higher in scenario B. But this is in part because public expenditure in 1982-83 has been increased by economic recession; this has reduced gdp and increased social security expenditure. It may therefore be a less satisfactory basis for comparison.

In both scenarios the share of gdp devoted to defence would be higher in 1990-91 than in 1979-80. Health and social security are shown as a broadly constant proportion in scenario A, and a rising proportion in scenario B.

In cost terms, increases in major programmes from 1979-80 to 1990-91 on the basis of the assumptions in this report would be:

- 35 to 50 per cent in defence expenditure, depending in part on the assumed non-pay relative price effect;
- 30 to 35 per cent in the law and order programmes;
- 25 to 35 per cent in expenditure on health due largely to demographic pressures;
- 20 to 25 per cent in the social

more severe. The projections show expenditure - which is lower than in scenario A - exceeding revenue by 7 per cent of gdp. If this gap were bridged by borrowing, the implication is a reverse of progress so far made in reducing the PSBR.

Indeed, as a percentage of gdp, borrowing approaches the levels that precipitated the 1976 crisis. But if borrowing were to be restrained to 2 per cent of gdp without cuts in expenditure, taxes would have to be raised by the equivalent of £15,000m at today's prices. The tax burden would rise from 40 to 45 per cent of gdp (having already risen from 35 to 40 per cent since 1978-79).

If the £15,000m came from income tax alone, the yield would have to be raised by about a half. If it came from the consumption taxes (VAT and specific duties) their combined yield would similarly have to be increased by half. In crude "ready reckoner" terms what is implied is, at the least:

- raising the basic rate of income tax to about 45p OR;
- abolishing all allowances other than the single allowance (for example, the married man's allowance, mortgage tax relief, relief for pension contributions and life assurance) and raising the basic rate to perhaps 33p. OR;
- raising VAT to 25 per cent and doubling the real level of all specific duties. OR;
- levying VAT at 25 per cent on goods which now bear the 15 per cent rate and those now zero-rated (food, fuel, etc.).

Conclusions. The projections are subject to a wide margin of error. But they demonstrate the difficulty of financing the levels of public expenditure implied by the continuation of current policies.

If the economy grows very slowly, as in scenario B, the consequences for taxation and/or borrowing are very serious. The economy would need to grow steadily and strongly, as in scenario A, to permit the sort of expenditure levels envisaged. It is doubtful whether this growth could arise without any further Government action to improve work incentives or to improve 'business' profitability through tax cuts. But if taxes were cut, borrowing could not be restrained to 20 per cent of gdp.

security programme, even though demographic changes are relatively favourable for this programme in the 1980s, compared with the 1970s or the 1990s.

Health and personal social services. Expenditure on the National Health Service and personal social services needed to provide a given standard of service is determined mainly by demographic change (that is, changes in the total size and age structure of the population), by progress in medical science (including the development of new and better surgical procedures, methods of diagnosis and pharmaceutical products), and by social trends affecting, e.g., the number of children in care.

As regards demography, total current expenditure on the hospital and community health services in England would rise by about 0.7 per cent a year during the 1980s, if current provision per head in each of the main age groups remained constant. An equivalent figure for expenditure on personal social services is 0.6 per cent in the number of men and women aged 75 and over between 1980 and 1990, compared with 2 per cent for the population as a whole.

As for the cost of medical progress, the Department of Health and Social Security had estimated that an increase in real current expenditure of about half a per cent a year is required as a contribution to the costs of medical advance to finance inescapable innovations without enforcing offsetting

reductions in standards elsewhere.

If current policies were broadly maintained, and with no improvements in levels of efficiency, the annual increase in provision necessary at least to meet the pressures exerted by demographic change and medical advances might be of the order of between 1 and 1.5 per cent between 1982-83 and 1990-91.

There are however many areas of health care where there is a pressing need for more resources.

Expenditure would need to rise at between 2 and 3 per cent a year to make significant progress in all these areas. On the other hand the Government is committed to securing progressive increases in NHS efficiency.

The scope for this is subject to review with health authorities. It seems doubtful (though not inconceivable) that a cumulative improvement of 0.5 per cent a year could continue throughout the decade. The growth of the private sector may take a little of the pressure off NHS acute services. There could also be some small increases in income through charges.

For these reasons it is suggested that the minimum net real growth in provision will be 0.5 per cent a year after 1984-85, on scenario B. With a further 0.5 per cent a year efficiency savings, this would barely maintain present standards.

If gdp rises faster there will be strong pressures to use some of the extra wealth to improve standards; health service expenditure normally rises as a percentage of gdp as gdp rises, because wealthier populations choose to spend more on health care, including care for the old and handicapped who depend on state services.

It is therefore suggested that the net real growth in provision might be at least 1.5 per cent a year after 1984-85 in scenario A.



Mr McNally: Boat lost sails

Lone sailor abandons Atlantic trip

Tom McNally, a Cheshire businessman, has given up his attempt to sail the Atlantic in a 6ft 10in yacht (Craig Seton writes). His wife has received a message saying he is safe on board a Russian trawler but that his boat is damaged and without sails.

Mr McNally, aged 40, was picked up by the trawler, Yuri Ysnakov, on Monday about 920 miles west of Land's End.

He said then that he would continue the voyage in his yacht, Big C, attempting to set a record for the smallest boat crossing of the Atlantic.

It is still not known whether Mr McNally remained on the trawler or set off again and was picked up a second time. Mrs Cathy McNally said she had received a message from him saying "Boat damaged, no sails".

Yesterday she sent a message back to him which said: "I am very proud of you. I am behind any decision you make."

Mr McNally left Newfoundland on August 18. He was 45 days into his voyage when he released a distress beacon. He had been planning the voyage for eight years and had invested £13,000 of his own money.

Proposals to reduce Green Belts defended by builders

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

Builders admitted for the first time yesterday that some protected land would be sacrificed if the Government went ahead with its proposed new policy for Green Belts. But they complained that the policy would do nothing to curb

unjustified enlargement of Green Belts by local authorities. Mr Roger Humber, director of the Housebuilders' Federation, said: "some Green Belt will go if this circular is implemented". The federation was commenting on one of a series of draft circulars issued by the Department of the Environment.

The circulars are meant to advise local councils and indicate the attitude of ministers when they receive appeals from developers whose planning applications have been rejected by councils. The draft circular of August about Green Belts has been greeted by the conservation lobby as acceptance by ministers of the complaints of builders about land shortages.

The federation said that prices of land for housebuilding were rising fast and had reached a "norm" of £200,000 an acre in the South-east. One of the few sites available in St Albans, with planning permission for 30 homes on just over an acre, had just been sold for £520,000.

Mr Humber said that local authorities were misusing Green Belts as an instrument to try to force development into inner cities, and that ministers were ignoring the misuse of green belt policies by councils. The Green Belt round London now covered four times as much land as the urban area administered by the Greater London Council.

Much of the countryside had official protection which prevented building and local authority plans allowed for less new housing than was expected to be needed. "Areas of outstanding natural beauty are almost as difficult to build in as Green Belts", Mr Humber said.

But the Royal Institute of British Architects said that instead of relaxing Green Belt policy, the Government should do more to persuade builders to take up disused inner city land.

Obscure legal advice cost firm £90,000

A firm of London solicitors has been ordered to pay £95,000 damages for giving "disastrous" advice to a client.

Mr Justice Jupp awarded the money after being told the error had lost a property company £90,000 rent on offices. The award includes interest. Socpen Trustees Limited, which holds property for the Social Workers' Pension Fund, was suing Grays Inn solicitors Wood, Nash and Winters at the High Court in London.

The dispute concerned offices in Rathbone Street, west London, leased to a business by Socpen. A "get-out" clause allowed either party to break the

agreement after 15 years. But a badly worded letter from the solicitors had misled Mr Harold Frank, Socpen's secretary, into thinking the lease could not be terminated and that the tenants could stay on at the same rent until 1986.

Part of the letter was phrased in "very obscure" English, the judge said, and it was not surprising that Mr Frank, who was not a lawyer, misunderstood it. "The result of that letter from the plaintiff's point of view was disastrous", he said.

Wood, Nash and Winters, who denied negligence, were granted a 28-day stay of execution to consider an appeal.

Speaking up for smokers.

Did you know smoking is the largest single cause of lung cancer, bronchitis, emphysema and peripheral vascular disease.*

*Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.

No.5 in a series.

THE HEALTH EDUCATION COUNCIL
78 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1AH.

Tax cuts vital to bring about necessary economic growth

The longer term public expenditure exercise has projected expenditure to the end of the decade on two illustrative macroeconomic scenarios. This note describes a similar projection of tax revenue on each of the same scenarios, and goes on to look at the balance between revenue and expenditure that is implied.

Like expenditure, taxes have been projected on the basis of unchanged policy. This has been interpreted to mean that income tax thresholds and specific duties are raised in line with prices, that tax rates are unchanged and that existing allowances and reliefs are continued. Local authority rates and National Insurance Contributions are calculated from the projections of local authority expenditure and expenditure from the National Insurance Fund, respectively, on the assumption that an unchanged proportion of such expenditure is met from general taxation. For North Sea taxes the real sterling oil price is assumed to rise by about a third between 1980 and 1990 (reflecting both a rise in the dollar price and a fall in the exchange rate). Even though some new fields are assumed to come on stream, total production is assumed to be a little below its peak level, which is reached in mid-decade.

The projections. If scenario A were to be fulfilled, the projections suggest that tax receipts would rise by about 20 per cent in real terms. This is a rather smaller increase than that assumed for gross domestic product in this scenario, so that taxes as a percentage of gdp fall from 39½ per cent to just over 37 per cent.

On scenario B projected tax receipts rise by only 6 per cent in real terms - a good deal less than on scenario A. But gdp also rises more slowly and taxes remain roughly constant as a percentage of gdp at just below 40 per cent.

On scenario A the projected gap between expenditure and revenue narrows to about 2 per cent of gdp by the end of the decade - no smaller as a percentage of gdp than the target figure set for the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement in the last year of the Medium Term Financial Strategy. Moreover, the tax projections make no provision for raising income tax thresholds in real terms or for cutting tax rates to help personal incentives, or to ease the disincentive effects of the poverty trap. Nor do they call for any reduction in the rate of business taxation.

If the economy develops less favourably as in scenario B the problem of financing public expenditure is likely to be much

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE PROJECTIONS
£bn at 1980-81 prices in cost terms
Figures in brackets are percentage of national output

	1979-80		1990-91	
			A steady growth low inflation	B slow growth higher inflation
Defence*	10.88	(4.5)	14.80	(5.9)
Defence aid and services	10.88	(4.5)	18.40	(6.6)
Overseas aid and services	2.48	(1.0)	2.52	(0.9)
Agriculture, fisheries, food, forestry	1.14	(0.5)	1.14	(0.5)
Industry, energy, trade, employment	3.07	(1.3)	4.41	(1.2)
Transport	2.70	(1.2)	3.58	(1.2)
Housing	5.54	(2.3)	5.50	(2.2)
Other environmental services	3.39	(1.4)	3.00	(1.0)
Law and order	3.05	(1.3)	4.07	(1.4)
Education	11.08	(4.8)	10.40	(3.5)
Health and social services	10.49	(4.4)	14.11	(4.8)
Social Security	22.88	(9.5)	28.58	(9.7)
Other including Scotland, Wales and N. Ireland	12.52	(5.3)	13.52	(4.8)
Nationalized industry external finance	3.08	(1.3)	1.37	(0.5)
Programme total	91.00	(38.2)	108.00	(38.9)
Public expenditure including debt interest	97.50	(41.0)	118.00	(38.3)

* Assumes non-pay costs rise no faster than average inflation.
† Assumes non-pay costs rise 2 percentage points a year more than general inflation rate.
‡ After asset sales and including contingency reserve.

Syrians 'ready to accept' more aid from Moscow to back stay in Lebanon

From Robert Fisk, Damascus

Regarding the American fleet as a threat to their own security and aware that the Israelis are far better armed than they are themselves, the Syrians are now letting it be known that they are "ready to accept" further military assistance from the Soviet Union.

Earlier this year, the Russians installed long-range Sam-2 anti-aircraft missile batteries in Syria but the Syrians are not disclosing what further military help they need and insist that Moscow is placing no political pressure upon Damascus.

Mr Faruk al-Shara, the Syrian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, said that Syrian troops would remain in Lebanon as long as Israel "imposes conditions" on the Lebanese Government, including the May 17 accord between the two countries.

He said that Syria wanted the United Nations Army in southern Lebanon to stay in the country but to be stationed on the Lebanese-Israeli international frontier, "not in front of or behind the backs of the Israelis to protect them".

Mr Shara, who is one of the principle advisers to Mr Abdul Halim Khaddam, the Syrian Foreign Minister, rejected President Reagan's contention that the conflict in Lebanon was "Russian sponsored aggression" and condemned the United States for "seeing conflicts all over the world only in terms of

East-West relations and of its antagonism to the Soviet Union".

But the multinational force in Beirut, made up of American marines and troops from Britain, France and Italy, should be withdrawn, he said.

"After the involvements of the marines in the fighting in Lebanon, they became a party to the conflict and their departure has become a 'national demand' in the sense that it is not only a Lebanese demand," he said. "I mean, when the Americans bring in the (battleship) New Jersey and say that the range of its guns can reach over 40kms, this is a serious matter that jeopardizes the security of our country as well as Lebanese territories."

When I suggested to Mr Shara that the Soviet Union was able to apply pressure on the Syrian Government now that Sam 5 missiles were positioned in his country with Soviet crews, he replied: "We are ready to accept more military assistance, knowing in advance that this would help us to defend ourselves without having pressure put on us."

"The Russians never try to pressure us for anything. Generally speaking, when they take a political stand on the Arab-Israeli conflict, it is similar to ours," he said. "Syria and the Soviet Union shared the same demands for the total withdrawal of Israeli troops

from occupied Arab territories, for an independent Palestinian state and the application of UN resolutions demanding the withdrawal of the Israelis from Lebanon."

Asked what price Syria would exact for peace in Lebanon, Mr Shara claimed that there was no such price. "The only thing we are asking is that the Israelis and the Americans do not demand anything from Lebanon," he said. "All our efforts are concentrated on stopping the Israelis obtaining any gains, any rewards, from the Lebanese... the May 17 agreement is putting conditions on the Lebanese. This we do not accept. The Lebanese Government signed this agreement without authority... (President) Gemayel himself said that the Lebanese Government does not control more than 10 or 20 per cent of the country. So how can he sign this agreement on behalf of the Lebanese people?"

He appeared unimpressed by Israel's demands for security guarantees for its northern border. "In the last 12 months, the Israelis have lost more casualties than they had in the previous 10 years from a Palestinian presence in the south of Lebanon," he said. "This talk of security is only a pretext for further expansion... As long as the Israelis are in Lebanon, we are not going to leave Lebanon."



Fire power: A Christian fighter of the Lebanese Forces loading tank shells for a training exercise in the Chouf mountains above Beirut.

UK pledges £250m credit to Iraq

By John Lawless and Edward Mortimer

Britain agreed yesterday to lend Iraq £250m to finance non-defence purchases of machinery and equipment, in return for an agreement that £30m owed to British exporters will be paid promptly.

The new line of credit was announced after Mr Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraq's First Deputy Prime Minister, lunched with Mrs Margaret Thatcher in London yesterday.

During the talks with Mr Ramadan, Mrs Thatcher raised the question of two British businessmen, Mr John Smith and Mr Donald Hagger, currently serving life sentences in Iraq.

Mr Smith, an executive of Hestair Dennis, was arrested in July, 1979, and later convicted, after pleading not guilty of attempting to bribe an Iraqi official. Several Iraqis caught with him were executed. Mr Hagger, a quantity surveyor, was arrested in September 1981 and later convicted of espionage.

A life sentence in Iraq normally runs for 20 years. Repeated British appeals for clemency have been met with

an unvarying Iraqi response: that Britain should release Mr Salim Hassan, an Iraqi who was sentenced to life imprisonment in March, 1979, for the murder of Abderrazak Nayif, a former Iraqi Prime Minister.

The British Government is unable to accede to this request, but it appears that Iraq is determined to hold Mr Smith and Mr Hagger until it is granted, and there are reports that they have been subjected to mistreatment. They do receive monthly consular visits.

Mr Ramadan's visit to London does not appear to have broken the stalemate. Yesterday's lunch followed a week of talks between teams led by the two countries' Trade Ministers, Mr Paul Channon and Mr Hassan Ali.

From being the boom market in the Middle East - with British sales in 1982 rising 40 per cent to reach £875m, and with the Iraqis insisting on making cash payments - the Baghdad Government has been forced to negotiate a series of deals during the past few months to keep its economy going.

US explains arms aim to Russia

From Alan McGregor

General

America yesterday explained to the Russians how its build-down plan for reducing nuclear warheads would operate when the superpowers resumed the strategic arms reduction talks (Sart) here.

Before the next session on Tuesday, Moscow's more considered assessment of the proposals - under which a larger number of old warheads would be destroyed for all new ones deployed - is expected. The initial Tass criticism of it as "empty words to disguise American aims of achieving military superiority" is regarded here as a reflex action.

The American concept is that the substitution ratio would vary according to the type weapon involved, the overall purpose being strategic balance.

With major land-based warheads, the ratio is expected to be two-to-one, with land-based mobile missiles, one-to-one, and three-to-two on submarine-based warheads.

As General Edward Rowley, the US chief delegate, has pointed out, neither side stands to lose by lowering levels of weapons. At a time of serious economic difficulties, the superpowers have a joint interest in this - irrespective of what it would do to improve their image in the world.

An American priority is to establish a working group to find a formula to implement build-down. No indication was available after yesterday's meeting on whether the Soviet delegation, headed by Mr Viktor Karpov, had responded favourably.

American negotiators drove up to the porch of the Russian diplomatic villa where their counterparts were waiting, lined up to shake hands. The occasion was subdued, smiles perfunctory.

With the INF talks on nuclear medium-range missiles in Europe still in apparent stalemate, the onus for setting a more positive trend is momentarily at least, on the Start negotiators.

Paper deluge hits Foreign Office

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

The Foreign Office which recently advertised five diplomatic "situations vacant" in the national press is now having to sift through 800 replies from aspiring future ambassadors.

The advertisement which appeared last week in three newspapers including *The Times*, was for men and women aged between 32 and 42 who would enter the diplomatic service at First Secretary level after experience in industry, finance or elsewhere.

Because of manning constraints in the mid-1970s, this is the first time in nearly a decade that the Foreign Office has had to draw for talent outside its own pool of bright young trainees recruited straight from university or school. Contrary to popular belief, the number of people in the Foreign Office has actually shrunk over the years, by a fifth since 1967 when it absorbed the old colonial and consular services, and by a tenth since 1979 when Mrs Thatcher began to bludgeon the Civil Service into submission.

A 10 per cent cut had to be made almost immediately in the manning of the 10 most populous overseas missions including Washington, New York, Paris and Bonn.

The effect has been however to open gaps at the level of First Secretaries - the "workhorses" of the diplomatic service who fill a number of crucial political posts abroad.

After "treating a tightrope" for several years the Foreign Office found itself at the start of this year with 30 vacancies which somehow had to be filled. Most of the gaps have been plugged by promotions from within the service and the five "challenging appointments" in international relations are those that remain.

The service usually recruits about 40 entrants a year, half of them bright young graduates who enter at the high-flying administrative level. The other half come in at the executive level, one rung down, from where promotion may be slower. But most of these are graduates, too, nowadays and transfers from the slow lane to the fast one are commonplace.

The number of applications is high (6,000 this year) but so too are the standards. The Foreign Office cannot guarantee that enough will emerge after three days of written examinations and interviews at the Civil Service Commission headquarters. Last year there was a shortfall.

Nor is the variety of entrants as wide as the Foreign Office would like. This year 59 per cent of the high fliers and 18 per cent of the others still came from Oxford and Cambridge. But recruiting officers are visiting red-brick and plate-glass universities to remind them that the field is open. One successful woman this year applied from the New University of Ulster, after a "crawl" there in 1982.

But the proportion of women is going up. One in every four of those in the last year this year - and 70 per cent of the others - are female. There are already several cases of husbands sacrificing mundane jobs in Britain to accompany their diplomatic wives abroad.

The successful five recruited from outside this year can expect to spend their first two or three years in London where the shortage of First Secretaries is most evident. After that there is no reason that they should not eventually become *Our Person* in Havana - or even Moscow, the Foreign Office says.

The Challenging Appointments in International Relations Service to 1990

Amnesty fails to move Japan over hangings

From Richard Hanson, Tokyo

The Japanese administration is unmoved by Amnesty International's recent criticism of its long-standing methods of carrying out capital punishment. Indeed, judging from recent public opinion polls most Japanese appear satisfied with the system under which about one convicted criminal a year is being quietly executed by hanging.

Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of Amnesty's report, which called for an end to executions in Japan, is the lack of controversy it seems to have inspired. Amnesty volunteers in Tokyo report that since the announcement in London they have had 10 requests for copies of the original report, and otherwise little reaction.

Japanese law in fact has shrouded the use of capital punishment in secrecy since the nineteenth century when the basis for today's practice was set out. There are no public announcements of execution dates, relatives are notified after the fact, and official records are not released.

Amnesty International says that in June, 28 prisoners were awaiting death. Between the end of the war and 1981, one private estimate is that 571 executions have taken place with the

number dwindling sharply in recent years as a result of fewer capital crimes and greater reluctance on the part of the courts to pronounce the death sentence.

Under the Penal Code there are 13 types of crimes punishable by death, including murder, rape, treason and bombings which result in death.

There is no sign that Japan will seriously consider abolishing the death penalty. No political party in Japan has made an issue of it. In 1980, an opinion poll showed that only 14.3 per cent of those questioned wanted to keep it, a drop from slightly over 20 per cent five years earlier.

The Amnesty report appears to have accomplished nothing in the way of opening a dialogue between Amnesty and the Japanese Justice Ministry. Exchanges were limited to Japanese explanations of how the system worked. One Justice Ministry spokesman commented that Amnesty's view that executions should be stopped was contrary to Japanese law.

Privately, some officials are reported to argue that the secrecy involved in executions is the best way to avoid causing additional grief to the families.

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Jail terms for Poles demanded

Lausanne (Reuters) - The prosecution demanded up to six years in jail for four Polish gunmen who took hostages in the Polish Embassy in Bern a year ago. The defence argued that they acted out of patriotism.

Mr Markus Peter, the state prosecutor, asked the Swiss Federal court's panel of five judges to give the highest sentence to the group's leader, Florian Kruszyk, as an exemplary punishment.

He demanded three years for Krzysztof Wasilewski, aged 33, whom he described as the most dangerous of the group and an anti-communist extremist. For Marek Michalski, aged 21, and Mirosław Plewinski, aged 23, he requested two and a half years each.

Hindus taken off bus and shot

Delhi (AP) - Armed Sikh militants hijacked a bus and raided a train in the violence-ridden northern Indian state of Punjab, killing a total of eight people and injuring five others.

While Muslim, Christian and women passengers were told to stay on the bus, the six Hindu passengers were ordered to line up by the side of the road and shot dead, the United News of India reported.

Fatal defection

Taipei (AP) - A Chinese Air Force pilot tried to defect to Taiwan in a MiG 19 in May but was intercepted by Chinese fighters and killed when he crashed into a mountain while attempting to land, Taiwan military officials said yesterday.

Gentle crashers

The Hague (AFP) - A Utrecht insurance company today announced a 20 per cent cut in insurance premiums for women drivers, because they crash their cars less violently than men.

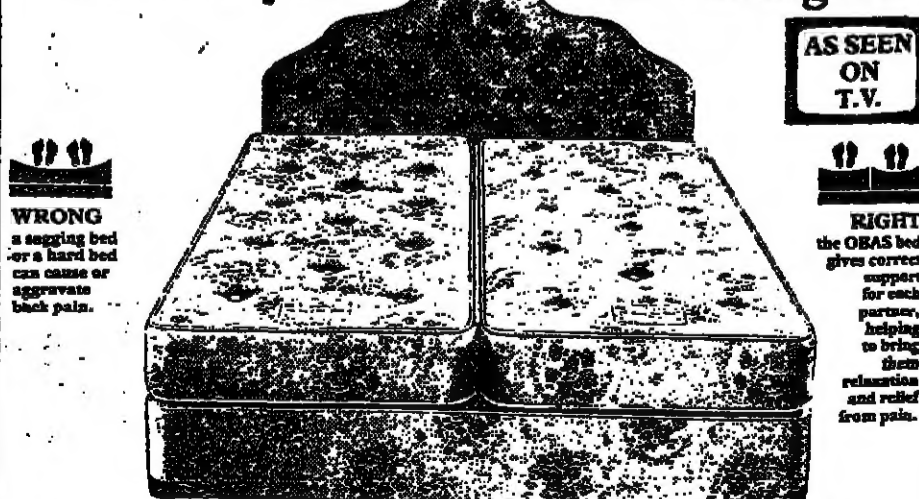
Boxer critical

New York (AP) - Isidro "Gino" Perez, the lightweight Puerto Rican boxer, knocked out last week, is still in a critical condition here with a severe brain injury.

17 executed

Tehran (Reuters) - Seventeen people with long criminal records were executed in Tehran for drug offences, Tehran radio said.

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Marcos appeals for unity in lacklustre TV address

From David Watts, Manila

With the prospect of tough economic times ahead, President Fernando Marcos has appealed to Filipinos in a television address to pull together through the impending gloom.

He took the opportunity, too, to warn against profiteering and hoarding of commodities and said everything must be keyed to increasing exports to shore up the economy. But it was a wan performance with nothing of the verve and enthusiasm of the old President Marcos.

For much of the time he appeared to be reading from a teleprompter, unusual for the President who normally makes all his speeches extempore. He appealed to people to eschew the joys of "Mercedes, sports cars, Betamax (Sony's video system) and imported television sets", the purchase of which can scarcely have any effect on the

Philippines' massive financial problems, and "shift to the production of more goods from our factories".

Immediate price increases are not expected to result from the devaluation of the peso because the price of petroleum is not expected to rise before December, but the very prospect of those increases has given ammunition to the opposition which staged another noisy demonstration in the financial district.

Banners calling on President Marcos to resign were paraded down Ayala Avenue and shredded paper cascaded from multistorey office blocks. More demonstrations are promised.

Far more sinister and indicative of the temper of Manila were reports of a plot to kill Cardinal Jaime Sin. The Cardinal is now visiting Rome, much to the relief of his staff who have been concerned for his safety ever since the murder of Benigno Aquino the opposition leader in August.

The Cardinal, who is due back in Manila at the end of this month, is an irreplaceable figure in the tense and confused Philippines political scene. He and the President play out a constant political battle, the Cardinal constantly trying to moderate government policies especially on human rights.

Both men appear to relish the contest and the Cardinal is the only civilian figure to whom the President will listen with any measure of respect.

There are certainly figures in Manila who would like to eliminate that containment of presidential power but it is unlikely that the Cardinal will be removed voluntarily from so vital a role.

Church vow to block abortion law in Spain

From Jane Mowbray, Madrid

Spain's Socialist Government's abortion bill, representing its first step towards the acceptance of abortion, was being passed last night. It rules that abortion in certain circumstances is no longer a criminal offence.

The bill, which undertakes to reform Spain's criminal code, sanctions abortion when a woman's life is at risk, when a child may be born deformed, and in cases of pregnancy as a result of rape.

The vote, which was being held in public, follows two days of impassioned debate during which police clashed with feminist groups in the streets protesting that the bill did not go far enough.

Meanwhile, the Catholic Church hierarchy and opposition politicians are still hoping to block the law's application in the constitution court. They have fought it at every stage of its nine-month passage through Parliament with public marches, demonstrations, letter campaigns and most recently in new editions of the Spanish Catholic catechism for primary schools.

The politicians claim that the law contravenes article 15 of the constitution which states: "Everyone has the right to life". The Catholic Church teaches that this right applies at the time of conception while Spanish officials say it applies only after birth.



Emotive issue: A pro-abortionist is arrested outside Parliament in the final stages of Spain's national debate.

The constitutional court has to decide on the matter in the next three months. Another possible constraint in the application of the law is that Spain's medical association is opposed to doctors performing abortion as part of Spain's free health services.

As a result, feminist organiza-

tions are concerned that abortion may continue to be an option that is more available to wealthier Spanish women, who can afford to have their abortions abroad. In contrast women who have abortions out of economic considerations, may be punished with prison sentences of between six months and three years.

Indians try to build anti-Gandhi coalition

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

The process of stitching together an anti-Gandhi coalition has begun. Opposition parties have come to the resort city of Srinagar in Kashmir at the invitation of the Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, son of the old Lion of Kashmir, Shaikh Abdullah.

Dr Abdullah's support is vital for any opposition group if they hope to break Congress (I) hold on the Muslim vote.

In order to find as much common ground as possible, the subject of the conclave is "centre-state relations". It is a subject naturally dear to the hearts of all non-congress chief ministers, and a useful cudgel against the government of Mrs Gandhi.

Arriving yesterday were the Chief Minister of Karnataka, Mr Ramakrishna Hegde of the Janata Party and his national president Mr Chandra Shekhar, who are at the centre of the largest coherent fragment of the opposition to come together so far. They have formed the United Front with four other smaller parties.

Mrs Gandhi has been scathing about the gathering. With the survival of the human race at stake, she said it was "astounding for people to be bickering and making the sort of alliances they are making".

Hongkong wrangle

China chides Luce for secrecy slur

From David Bonavia, Peking

China renewed its attacks yesterday on Mr Richard Luce, the Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, for remarks he made recently on Hongkong.

The *People's Daily* chided him for saying China was breaching the confidentiality of the Anglo-Chinese talks on the future of Hongkong which are held here.

"One might ask Mr Luce: 'Do you deny that the erroneous arguments printed in British newspapers represent the right stance of the British Government in the talks?'"

Mr Luce said in Hongkong that he not wish to conduct "megaphone diplomacy" and criticized the Chinese for publicizing the content of the talks.

Mrs Thatcher insisted last year when she visited China and Hongkong that the talks should be conducted in the utmost secrecy. However, Chinese newspapers here and in Hongkong have frequently discussed both China's negotiating goals and proposals from the British.

Diplomats, including Sir Percy Cradock, the outgoing ambassador to Peking, have been forbidden to comment.

The Party organ went on to criticize Mr Luce for saying China wanted to put a time limit on the talks and that he did not think this was helpful. It is China's view that she alone can speak for the people

of Hongkong, 99 per cent of whom are Chinese.

China hoped that the British Government would "take a sincere and cooperative attitude, and, through friendly talks with the Chinese side, completely and quickly settle the Hongkong problem".

Colony in crisis: Mounting concern in Hongkong over the sliding dollar and loss of business confidence are expected to dominate talks between Mrs Thatcher and Hongkong's "cabinet" in Downing Street today (Henry Stanhope writes).

Sir Percy Cradock, soon to become Mrs Thatcher's special adviser on foreign affairs, accompanied Sir Edward Youde, the Governor of Hongkong, for a preparatory session yesterday in advance of today's meeting.

PEKING: Senior Chinese and Russian officials yesterday resumed talks on improving their relations after a seven-month break (Reuter reports).

But there were few signs of progress, with the Soviet Union apparently refusing China's demands to eliminate what Peking sees as the three main obstacles to better ties.

These are defined as Moscow's backing for the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea, the Soviet military build-up along its border with China and in Mongolia, and the Kremlin's 1979 intervention in Afghanistan.

EEC butter deal hits housewives

From Our Own Correspondent

Plans to melt the awesome EEC butter mountain which at \$60,000 tonnes is taking on Himalayan proportions - have been completed by the European Commission. They include a reduction of New Zealand imports and an end to the special subsidy, which to the British housewife is worth about 7p on a half lb pack of butter.

The Commission means that the measures should be agreed at the same time as its scheme to cut back milk production with the imposition of 75 per cent levies on surplus production.

All the ideas, for different reasons, are likely to run into serious trouble from member states when they are asked to decide them in the Council of Ministers. But the Commission spokesman gave a warning yesterday that if they were not approved then even more rigorous measures would have to be taken before long.

"Even if they are accepted," he said, "things will be difficult for several years to come. The butter mountain will continue to have serious repercussions on the budget."

The measures announced yesterday include from which were forestalled in July by the Commission's paper on cutting the cost of agriculture.

The proposals are a "serious and totally unjustified blow to the New Zealand dairy farmers", Mr Jim Graham, chairman of the New Zealand Dairy Board said (Patricia Clough writes).

US bridge team in final

By a Bridge Correspondent

The United States first team, Robert Hamman and Robert Wolff, Peter Wechsell and Alan Sontag, Mike Becker and Ron Rubin, won their semi-final match against the United States second team by a predictably large margin of 440-338 in the world bridge championships here.

The semi-final between France and Italy was packed with drama to the end. After 42 deals, France led by 62 points. For the remaining 48 deals the Italian captain relied on his two junior pairs Arturo Franco and Dano De Dalco, Marco Mosca and Laura Lorenzo who gradually reduced the deficit until the last session of 16 deals began with the difference only three points in France's favour. On the second board it was discovered that this hand had not been shuffled before the deal (a requirement of the laws) and a joint meeting of the law and appeals committee ordered the board to be redealt. On the redeal, Italy scored 12 points and with one board to play they led by 11 points.

On the final board the French pair had stayed in game on a hand which offered a fair chance for a slam - but a slam would fail. Had Italy bid this slam, France would have won by one point. After long thought the Italians stopped in four hearts and were through so the final 346-335. Mosca is the only Italian for whom this is the first Bermuda Bowl final.

Lomé negotiations hinge on hard cash

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg

There was a very formal start yesterday to what promises to be 10 months of soul-searching negotiation to agree a third Lomé Convention. Representatives from the 10 EEC member states and the 63 African, Caribbean and Pacific countries (ACP) met in Luxembourg to launch the detailed discussions, which are meant to put a new cooperation agreement between the two blocks into operation by February 1985.

The Lomé Convention is the one recognizable monument to the North-South dialogue, and M. Edgar Pisani, The Development Commissioner, made it clear in his opening speech to the meeting that if they failed to reach an agreement they would prove that this kind of cooperation was no more than "a mad dream".

But Lomé has proved a partnership in which both sides need each other so much that there is almost no chance of the negotiations failing. Nor is there much chance of the third convention being very different from its predecessors.

What remains open, however, is just how many strings the EEC will succeed in attaching to the eventual aid package. Because, although M. Pisani yesterday spoke about "partnership", about "weaving a positive and privileged relationship" and about Lomé being "more than a convention

... it is an idea, it is a will", the unspoken work behind all the negotiations is "money".

The ACP countries, who between them are estimated to be in debt to the tune of some \$35,000m, want to see the EEC prepared to help them by more than the \$3,500m set aside under the present five-year convention. For its part the EEC wants to try to ensure that any money it eventually decides to set aside is better used than in the past.

Mr Timothy Raison, the British Minister involved in the negotiations had a more polite way of putting this. According to him "the quality of aid is more important than ever-increasing quantity". The EEC wants to make sure that its money is spent on the right things and in the right way.

This is to be achieved, Mr Raison hopes, by "the concept of policy dialogue with individual ACP countries". In other words the Lomé governments will be given very strong guidance on what they should spend their development aid money on, and they can expect that the EEC will be looking very carefully at how the money is administered once it is given.

The same is likely to apply to Spabex, the system which was meant to compensate ACP countries for fluctuations in commodity prices and to be used for improving their production.

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Baton charge and tear gas break up Chilean opposition demonstration

Santiago (Reuters) - Police used baton charges, tear gas and water cannon to disperse demonstrators on Wednesday night after an opposition rally.

Several people were injured, including a woman wounded by a shotgun pellet. It was not clear who fired the gun.

The trouble came as the demonstrators headed out of the square beside President Augusto Pinochet's Moneda Palace after the rally, which had been allowed by the authorities.

A crowd of 5,000 had gathered and under banners demanding a return to democracy, students and workers joined hands to sing songs made famous under the elected Marxist Government of the late Salvador Allende overthrown by President Pinochet.

The biggest cheers were reserved for a group of 100 sacked copper workers and their families, who joined the rally after being refused permission to stage a march from the mining city of Rancagua to the capital on Tuesday.

The president of the copper workers' confederation, Señor Rodolfo Seguel, also received an ovation from the crowd. His arrest in June for helping to organize anti-government protests triggered a strike which led to the workers' dismissals.

Union officials said 50 marchers had been injured when police launched a charge into them on Tuesday night in

San Fernando. They had gathered there after being dispersed earlier in the day in Rancagua, 50 miles south of Santiago.

Police said 40 arrests were made because the workers had tried to stage an illegal march there. Santiago's chief administrator later refused to allow them to march to the capital.

● Dialogue falters: Talks between the Chilean opposition and the military regime over a return to democracy have broken down, Señor Luis Bossay, a leading Social Democrat and former Chilean Senator, has told *The Times* (Florence Varas writes).

Señor Bossay, one of five members of the leadership committee of the Democrat Alliance (a loosely-knit political movement of parties from the right - Social Democrats and

Christian Democrats - and Socialists) said that the dialogue had been destroyed by recent statements in which President Augusto Pinochet had mocked the process. In the light of this, opposition politicians felt they could "no longer continue cheating the people" by carrying on an empty dialogue.

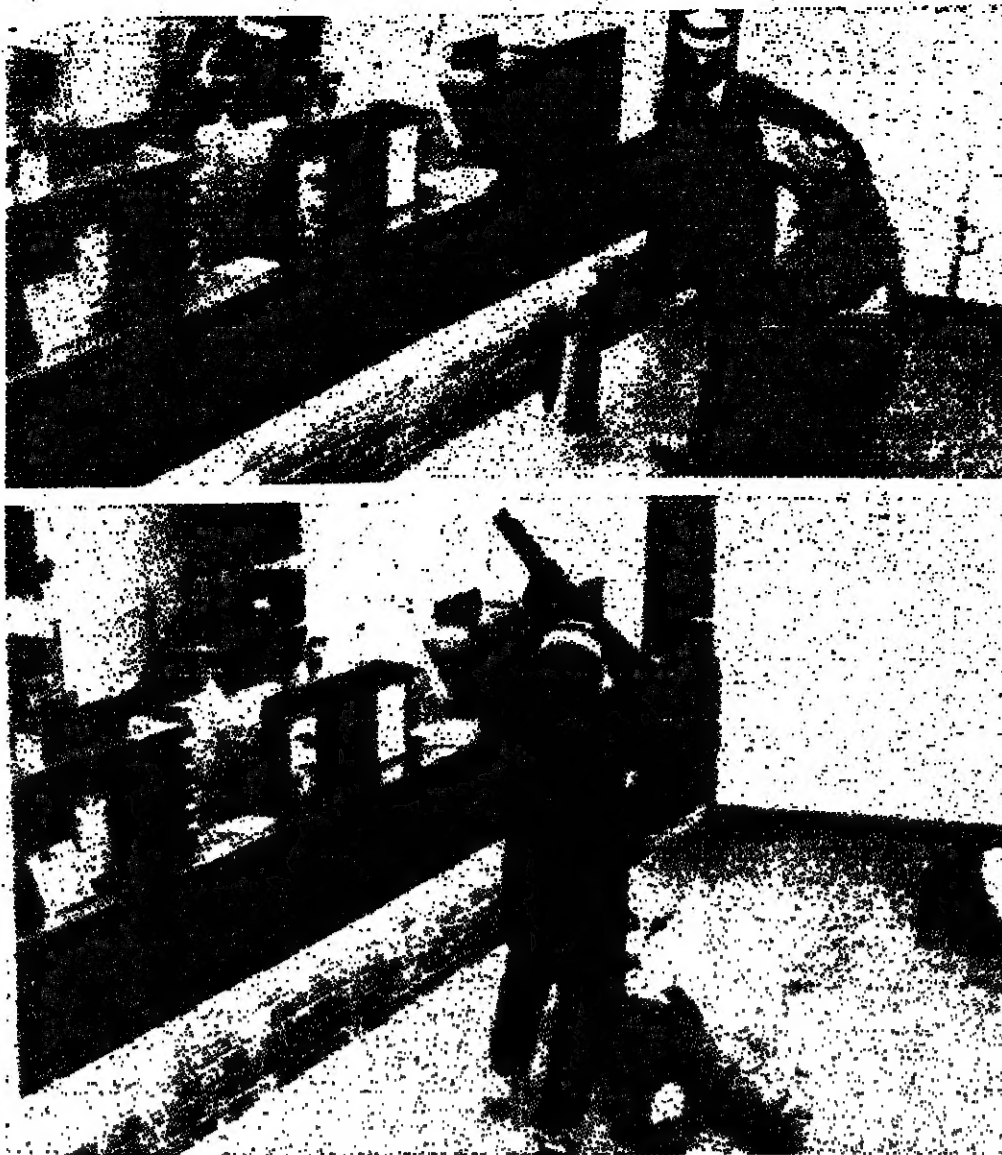
In public meetings, the President has openly criticized politicians and those who want a return to democracy. Señor Bossay claimed that such acts negate attempts to reach agreement about constitutional changes. Dialogue between the opposition and government, was now out of the question, given that the President remained firm in his decision that the constitution would stay the same, "no matter what it costs".

Such presidential statements, members of the "alliance" said, made a peaceful return to democracy impossible, and pushed the country toward a struggle between extremists from both the right and the left.

"When we started the dialogue with Señor Sergio Onofre Jarpa, the Minister of the Interior, the Government said it would end the state of emergency, which it did. But it replaced it with something worse, which is the state of internal danger", Señor Bossay said.



President Augusto Pinochet



Law of the gun: A video camera records a Melbourne bank robbery in action. A retired merchant navy skipper, Captain Burnham Dun, aged 79, is seen, above, being punched to the ground after hitting a robber over the head with his walking stick. Below, a doctor who has gone to the aid of the captain falls to the floor when the robber uses his gun as a bludgeon to rain blows on his victim.

Nicaragua conflict

Havana takes new role as mediator

From Marlene Simons (New York Times), Mexico City

Senior Cuban officials have held a series of meetings with an anti-Sandinista rebel group to exchange views and measure the chances of future negotiations between the rebels and Managua, left-wing sources in Central America.

The meetings with representatives of the dissident Sandinista commander, Señor Eden Pastora Gomez, were said to have taken over the past few months and were initiated by Cuba.

Although the nature of the talks was described by one source as still tentative, they indicated a significant shift in the attitude of Havana and Managua towards the Sandinista Government's Revolutionary Alliance.

In the past, the Nicaraguan Government has rejected repeated requests by Señor Pastora's Costa Rican-based group to negotiate its demand for a less radical and pro-Cuban political attitude in Managua, Señor Pastora said, the rejection had forced him to pick up arms against his former fellow revolutionaries.

Cuban officials were said to have informed Managua of their talks with rebels, although there had been some indications that the Sandinistas had shown no enthusiasm for the initiative.

The Cuban moves have coincided with an apparently similar change of attitude towards the Pastora group by officials of the Reagan Administration. Until recently, members of the group have complained bitterly that Washington ignored them and that covert US assistance to anti-Sandinista groups was being channelled only to the Honduras-based Nicaraguan Democratic Front.

But for the first time, over the past three months, according to American diplomats and sources in the Pastora group, officials of the US embassy in

the Costa Rican capital of San Jose have sought meetings with the anti-Sandinista group, and particularly with one of its key leaders, Señor Alfonso Robelo Callejas, a former member of the Nicaraguan junta.

It is not clear if the courting of Señor Pastora's group by both Cuba and the United States is related. An American diplomat in the region said, however, that the Reagan Administration was aware of the meetings.

Their first contacts were said to have come unexpectedly in Washington last April and were followed up by a conversation in the Venezuelan capital of Caracas in early July.

The most important meeting took place in mid-July, when Señor Coronel, former Minister of Fishing in the Sandinista Government and the chief political adviser to Señor Pastora, travelled to Havana. There he met several senior Cuban officials, including Señor Manuel Pineda, chief of the Americas Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party. Señor Pineda is regarded as one of the key Cubans responsible for policy and activities in Latin America.

A further meeting between Cuban officials and two aides of Señor Pastora was held in Panama 10 days ago.

While little is known about the substance of the talks, the fact that they are taking place underscores the importance of the continuing Cuban role in regional politics.

● New York: The US expressed concern to El Salvador yesterday about human rights abuses and the resurgence of death squads (Reuters reports).

Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State also emphasized to Señor Fidel Chavez Molina, the Salvadorean Foreign Minister, the need for prosecuting the killers of four US churchwomen in 1980 and other Americans since then.

Beans and bullets outwit guerrillas

From Christopher Thomas Guatemala City

The province of Huehuetenango stretches north to the Mexican border, a lush, rugged terrain that a year ago was in the grip of a huge uniformed army of left-wing guerrillas.

Today, most of the rebels have fled across the border, a scattered rag-tag band reduced to nighty forays.

The Guatemalan army routed them not by force but by psychology. The generals decided that their policy of seek and kill was failing because the brutality and insensitivity of the soldiers was driving the timid Indian peasants into the hands of the rebels.

They therefore instituted a programme called "beans and bullets". First, they started a food programme to coax the Indians, then followed it by the issue of rifles and pistols to help them fend off the subversives.

The Indians responded overwhelmingly in Huehuetenango and elsewhere, and there are now 500,000 civil defence force members nationally - a figure confirmed by diplomats close to the scene.

There are calculated risks for the Army, with thousands of weapons circulating in the countryside, which could fall into guerrilla hands. And arming a somewhat primitive Indian population with high-



powered rifles has already led to some brutal settling of scores among them.

General Oscar Mejia Victores, Guatemala's Head of State, is jubilant: "We have reversed the Mao Tse Tung maxim that the masses are to guerrillas what water is to fish. The masses are now with us."

That is an exaggeration, however. The Indians are accepting the Army in its role as the lesser of the evils. Nevertheless, this correspondent witnessed a demonstration by at least 4,000 Indians in the mountains North of Huehuetenango to celebrate the first anniversary of the formation of local civil defence forces.

A thousand men were lined up on horseback, three thousand more on foot, all of them from small communities scattered over a wide area.

Their leaders made anti-guerrilla speeches, and the masses cheered.

Argentine pledge on debts

From Andrew Thompson Buenos Aires

The Argentine Army high command has issued a statement reaffirming its commitment to holding a general election on October 30 and proclaiming its willingness to honour the country's foreign debt commitments.

The statement, issued late on Wednesday night, came as the worst of the country's political and financial crisis appeared to have passed. Earlier in the day Señor Julio Gonzalez Del Solar, the central bank president, was released from court custody in the Patagonian town of Rio Gallegos.

An appeals court also ruled in favour of the Government's attempts to unravel the complicated legal situation which has forced a freeze on all renegotiations of the country's foreign debt, estimated at about \$27 billion.

Both the freeze and the arrest of the central bank president were ordered by Judge Federico Pinto Kramer in Rio Gallegos.

A lawyer representing a group of private citizens has filed a suit against Judge Kramer in the Supreme Court, accusing him of "acting in search of notoriety, misplaced nationalism, or in response to pressures from political sectors."

The army statement said that its commitment to democracy was opposed by "the irresponsible actions of certain sectors and persons."

Leading article, page 15



Caught in the middle: General Figueiredo may risk IMF anger

Brasilia (Reuters) - President Jaao Figueiredo yesterday said he would consider changing an unpopular wage law which is seen as a key part of Brazil's debt negotiations with the International Monetary Fund and commercial banks.

General Figueiredo said that limiting pay rises to 80 per cent of the inflation rate was being re-examined.

Ministers and foreign bankers have said its approval, or an equivalent measure, is essential for Brazil to meet IMF targets and receive renewed financing for its estimated \$60 billion foreign debt. The IMF, commercial banks, suspended lending programmes last May.

The decree, which included restrictions on rent and mortgage rises, was introduced in July to reduce Brazil's inflation rate - running at more than 130 per cent - and public spending. Its announcement was followed by a breakthrough in the negotiations with the IMF.

Bankers' drought, page 14

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Report condemns repression in South African black homeland

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg:

A horrifying picture of violence, repression and torture in Ciskei, one of South Africa's four black homelands, is painted in a report released here this week.

The trouble started last July when residents of Mdantsane, a large black township just inside Ciskei's border and about 10 miles from the white industrial area of East London, began to boycott the homeland's bus service because of high fares.

The report alleges that vigilantes loyal to Chief Lennox Sebe, the President, ransacked the township, assaulting residents not using buses or suspected of being hostile to the Administration. Mdantsane residents claim that up to 90 people have died at the hands of the Ciskei authorities since the crackdown began.

The report was compiled by Mr Nicholas Haysom, a researcher for the Centre of Applied Legal Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand, and was based in part on eyewitness accounts and sworn statements by those claiming to have been the victims of assault.

The report, supported by other sources, says the vigilantes detained scores of residents in a local football stadium where up to 80 people at a time were locked in a small changing-room for several days without toilets, food or water.

It alleged detainees were beaten with sjamboks and sometimes assaulted while swinging from a rod suspended between two tables, a technique known as the "boeing" or "helicopter". The South African police have also been accused of using it in the past.

Mdantsane residents travelling by car are said to have been hauled from their vehicles and beaten up, while others assaulted and arrested after failing to produce documents which they were not required to carry, or had never been issued with in the first place.

There are also reported to be frequent police raids on residents' homes. The police are apparently looking for "subversive" literature and any evidence of links with, or sympathy for, the militant South African Allied Workers' Union (SAAWU), which has been banned by the Ciskei authorities. Possession of a SAAWU T-shirt can be grounds for arrest.

It is not clear whether the violence is continuing. Other sources claim it is still going on and that, although the football stadium has been cleared, beatings and torture continue elsewhere.

Mr Haysom argues that Ciskei is being used as a dumping-ground for blacks surplus to the requirements of the white economy.

The situation in Ciskei has been exacerbated by a dynastic feud within the ruling Sebe clan. Three months ago, Lieutenant-General Charles Sebe, a half-brother of the President and former chief of security, was arrested with his son and another family member. They are still in jail. A teenage nephew of the President, Kama Sebe, was also arrested earlier this week.



Chief Sebe: Tough tactics

Bahamans protest over 'drug scandal'

Nassau, (Reuters) - Hundreds of people, including opposition MP's demonstrated outside the Bahaman Parliament yesterday after the Prime Minister, Mr Lyndon Findling refused to debate allegations of government involvement in illegal drug trafficking.

Four people were arrested in clashes between government supporters and anti-government demonstrators.

At issue was an NBC television report aired early last month alleging that drug smugglers had paid protection money to government officials.

Inside Parliament, Mr Findling announced the appointment of Edward Willis, a retired assistant commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, as the third member of a three-man commission of inquiry into the NBC allegations.

The other commissioners are Sir James Smith, a former Bahaman Chief Justice, and Drexel Gomez, Anglican Bishop of Barbados.

Members of the opposition Free National Movement (FNM) walked out in protest when Mr Findling refused further debate on the allegations after announcing Mr Willis's appointment.

The FNM Chairman, Cecil Wallis-Whitfield told demonstrators: "There is a perversion which exists from the top of our Government right down to the bottom."



Basque border blast: All that remains of a political passport station in the Spanish town of Irun on the border with France after two bombs exploded yesterday morning.

There were no casualties. Police said they suspected the bombing to be the work of ETA Basque nationalist guerrillas, though the group had not claimed responsibility.

The group did, however claim yesterday that its members had killed a policeman in Bilbao on Tuesday.

General blamed for delay in Peru murder inquiry

Lima (Reuters) - The head of the Peruvian Journalists' Association, Señor Mario Castro Arenas, has accused an army general of thwarting a judicial inquiry aimed at bringing the killers of eight Peruvian reporters to trial.

Señor Castro Arenas said that General Clemente Noel, commander of an anti-guerrilla campaign in south-eastern department of Ayacucho, was ignoring an investigation judge's appeal for cooperation. The eight journalists were killed on

January 26 in Ayacucho while investigating rumours of alleged human rights abuses by security forces.

General Noel had ignored the judge's request for police to be sent to bring witnesses to a hearing. Señor Castro Arenas said, adding that he had asked the Supreme court last week to move the inquiry.

Judge José María Galvez Vega, president of the Supreme Court, said yesterday he believed General Noel was "not giving total cooperation".

Expelled Ghanaians return to Nigeria

From Clifford May (New York Times), Lagos

When he graduated from a Presbyterian secondary school in Accra two years ago, Mr Michael Addo, then 24 years old, hoped to go into business. But given the sickly state of the Ghanaian economy, even the best job he was offered would have paid him in a month only enough to buy food for about a week.

So, like many young Ghanaians at that time Mr Addo came to the Nigerian capital. He found work as an apartment house guard, and on his salary he was able to afford food, shelter, new clothes and such small luxuries as a portable radio. There was even a little money left over to send home to his family occasionally.

Then, one morning last January, he switched on his radio and heard that all illegal aliens were to leave the country within two weeks.

"I wasn't angry," recalled Mr Addo. "I was afraid. I was afraid of what the Nigerians might do, that they might beat me or kill me. Nigerians are hard to understand."

Many West Africans say they came to Nigeria illegally only because getting the proper documentation was more difficult and took longer than simply bribing an official or two at the border. According to some estimates, as many as 5,000 West Africans continue to cross illegally into Nigeria every month.

Lagos is an unlikely land of opportunity. Much of the city is a sprawling slum, violent crime

is rife, and basic municipal services are lacking.

None of that makes much difference to the immigrant workers. "Life is easier in Lagos," said Grace Afful, a 29-year-old Ghanaian. "Life is better. If you get the money, you can buy anything you want. Even if you get the money, (in

Ojukwu fails to win Senate seat

Mr Enaka Ojukwu, the former Biafran leader, has failed in his attempt to win a seat in the Nigerian Senate after Mr Edwin Onwadiwe, his leading opponent, successfully appealed against his victory.

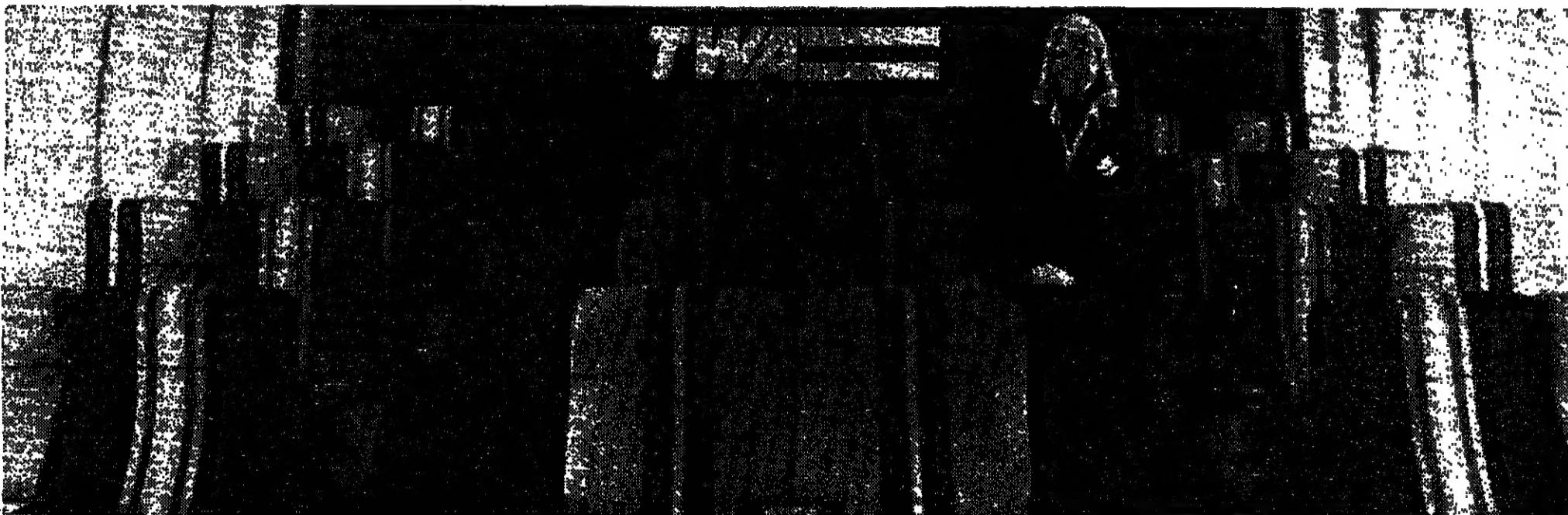
The Federal Appeal Court in Enugu, capital of Mr Ojukwu's home state of Anambra in the east, reversed a lower court decision to give the seat to Mr Ojukwu in the August elections saying the trial judge had made errors of law and procedure.

Ghana: there is nothing in the stores or the markets to buy with it."

The expulsions are a sore subject for the Nigerian Government. Officials say Nigeria was only doing what any sovereign nation has the right to do.

This country has laws, immigration laws, and if you want to come here you are welcome, but do it according to the laws," said Mr Umaru Dikko, a Government Minister and one of President Shugu Shagari's closest advisers.

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Niger army fails in armed coup

Niamey, (AP and AFP) - Mr Mamane Oumarou, the Prime Minister of Niger, in a broadcast to the nation yesterday, announced that an attempt to overthrow the Government by "a group of armed men" had been foiled by the Army and that order had been reestablished.

"Taking advantage of the absence of the chief of state (Colonel Seyni Kountche), a group of armed men thought they could easily take power," he said.

A diplomatic source here said it appeared that the Government had regained control of Niamey after a pre-dawn outbreak of gunfire. "It seems very clear that the legal authorities are very much in control," the source said. Colonel Kountche was flying back to Niamey yesterday from France where he attended the French-African summit meeting in Vitell over the weekend.

In the name of the Supreme Military Council the Prime Minister called on all Niger citizens to be vigilant. He did not give any indication of the identity of the "armed men" who had attempted the coup, nor did he say if they were soldiers or members of other security forces.

Earlier, intense automatic fire was reported from the vicinity of the presidential palace and the headquarters of the armed forces, the presidential guard and the police.

Seven die in French stabbing

Beauvais (AFP) - Six members of the same family were found stabbed to death at a house in the small village of St Martin-le-Neuf in northern France yesterday, one of them a woman aged 20 whose engagement had recently been broken off.

A seventh person, a neighbour who found the bodies, later died of a heart attack.

Police refused to speculate about the motive for the murders which took place at about 2am. An apprentice butcher named as Pascal D., aged 23, said to be the former fiancé of the woman Mlle Caroline Labrousse was later helping police with their inquiries.

Jean-Yves Labrousse, the young woman's brother, aged 16, who was badly injured, was out of danger last night and expected to be a key witness to the carnage.

Police said that Mlle Labrousse was probably stabbed first, then her mother Francisque.

The murderer, police said, then apparently went upstairs and killed Caroline's father, Jean aged 40, and her sister Fabrice aged 11.

The murderer, was believed to have been trying to set the house on fire when he heard the grandparents, M and Mme Georges Bequet, apparently awakened by screams, coming from their own home. Police said. Both were fatally stabbed.

Former family fiefdom offered its freedom

From Tony Dubondin, Melbourne

The 380 inhabitants of the Cocos Islands, one of Australia's last dependencies, have asked Canberra to organize an Act of Self-determination under United Nations auspices.

The islands, about 2,000 miles west of Darwin in the Indian Ocean, were the property of Mr John Clunies-Ross until Australia bought them in 1978 for about £3½ million, ending a family reign which started in 1827 when Captain John Clunies-Ross formed a settlement and indentured Malay labourers for his coconut plantation.

The Cocos-Malay Council, which represents the population, has also told Canberra that it supports moves to acquire the remaining property of Mr Clunies-Ross, about 12 acres, which he was allowed to keep in 1978, and from where he runs about nine companies. The islands are a tax haven, a status they may lose in 1985.

Australia will present three options to the Cocos community: integration with Australia, free association, or independence.

Canberra had thought the island population would await outcome of an Australian High Court action by Mr Clunies-Ross against the Government over its plans to take over his property on the island, before requesting an Act of Self-determination.

Australia will approach the UN soon to resolve how the islanders will decide their future. One option is a referendum. However, it is understood that Canberra has been told to go ahead.

The department of Administrative Services will value Mr Clunies-Ross's property before making an offer. Should he refuse to negotiate, Canberra will consider compulsory purchase.

Under the administration of the Clunies-Ross family, the Cocos Islands had no official currency. Malay workers were paid in plastic tokens which they could spend only in the family store. They were not allowed to return to the islands if they left to live elsewhere.

The family provided housing, medical needs and some education. Since the Australian takeover in 1978, the islanders have been paid in Australian currency. They started a council, pooled their earnings and received an annual dividend.

A year ago, Mr Clunies-Ross said he wanted to remain, regardless of the final decision of the islanders.

SPECTRUM

MILAN
FASHION

Street-smart plainness or curvaceous neo-classicism? Suzy Menkes reports from this week's Milan collections on conflicting themes proposed by the two biggest names of the Italian fashion industry

Stepping into the gender trap

The voluptuous image of Italian fashion has been smashed underfoot. On Wednesday evening, Giorgio Armani's deliberately plain models, dressed in mannish jackets of brutal grey, strode out on the runway and stole the fashion show week.

The tender trap of seductive colour and gentle curves that used to be the style of Milan fashion has now become the gender trap. Armani's women are ensnared in collarless jackets, worn with wide straight pants, button-down shirts and even schoolboy ties. Shoes are flat. The rare skirts are long and plain, the make up minimal, and the effect so sexually uncertain that when a curve of the body showed through a fine linen shirt it came as a sudden shock.

The overall image was witty, modern and absolutely in tune with street style. Armani was showing for the first time for two years and he received an ovation in the high tech theatre he has built in the bowels of his newly-acquired palazzo.

The collection is a challenge to Milan's other fashion colossus, Gianni Versace, who showed the same day a radically different style.

Armani had the man's jacket, cut long and fitted or wrapped like a cardigan with one lapel nonchalantly flopping.

Versace made the draped dress, curvaceous, feminine, inspired by the Greek and Roman classics. Versace had colour: deep navy and sea green, purple and red with bursts of sunshine yellow and not one single garment in grey.

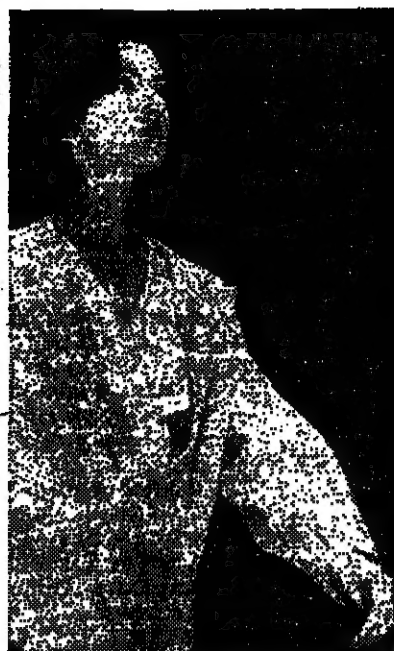
Armani, in his own collection and in his line for Erreuno, used with brilliant effect the Japanese textures: graphic check prints, a few stylized flowers and rough weaves of linen and jute.

Both depend on the Italian fabric industry which promotes the designer names and makes possible the lavish parties and luxury surroundings of the fashion industry.

In this city of contrasts that puts high tech seating into high Renaissance buildings, there is room for different designer styles. But it would be too easy to describe the fashion clash in Milan, played out to a lesser extent by other designers, as a battle between old and new. Armani's genius is the old fashioned art of tailoring.

The genius of Gianni Versace is to marry glamour and technology. His draped dresses, tucked and pleated suedes and slithers of striped silk wrapped across the back, were marvels of cutting. He then produced the same tricks in the aluminium mesh he has developed as the 'Eighties' answer to the sequin. The glittering, airy fabrics, now printed with flowers or studded with rhinestones, make his look the sexiest in Milan - a feminine and quintessentially Italian contrast to the Japanese styles.

Versace - like the rest of Milan - shows a lot of trousers, but they are curved at the hips and narrow at the ankle, shown under slim three-quarter tunics or loosely constructed tops.



Gianfranco Ferre: hot colours, minimal shapes and a double shirt



Armani again: a school tie with a mannish suit for Erreuno



Krizia: a vest revealed beneath a linen trouser suit



Missoni: graph-paper knit for a jacket and a sweater dress

Above: the aggressive androgyny of Giorgio Armani's trouser suit in a graphic check presents a provocative contrast to the slinky flow of Gianni Versace's draped dress

These are often cut asymmetrically to give just a hint of the oriental influence. At a Milan in which Japanese grey threw a cloud over everything but the blue sky, Versace's colours were a welcome relief.

Gianfranco Ferre also played effectively with colour, and with minimal shapes too. Hot pink, orange and red added splashes of colour to his clean, clear collection.

Ferre's theme was the double shirt, one worn as an unconstructed jacket, the other as a mirror-image shirt. The same chemise worked well as a dress, caught in at the back with a gentle belt.

Ferre showed me on graph paper how he cut his apparently simple kimono shape to get controlled fullness.

Other fresh ideas from Ferre were the vest - another favourite Milan theme. There were singlets worn with a slim skirt or pants, always belted at the hips and in every possible fabric, including sequin studs at night.

Pointillist prints, fragmented molecular markings and bold graphic squares were a new departure for the Missonis.

They used four dozen television screens to project a backdrop for their unrivalled knitted fabrics, made this season in easy shapes like T-shirt tops and sweater dresses. Tai Missoni told me at the private view they gave of a small Francis Bacon exhibition that his new prints were influenced both by Impressionist art and by nature, enlarging under a microscope butterfly markings.

The spotted coat of a dalmatian was the inspiration for the latest line of intarsia knits from Krizia's Mariuccia Mandelli. Wit and whimsy are the hallmarks of her designs, rearing up as the head of a sequined serpent coiled suggestively around the body of a jungle-patterned lamé dress.

Krizia's technical mastery of knitting overwhelms the opposition. But

Laura Biagiotti did pretty things with cashmere - including sweater dresses with ribbed accessories that were best in Milan's only hot colour story: coral.

Graph-paper prints, big unconstructed shapes and a new boxy jacket showed Claude Montana at Complice under the Japanese influence. But this Paris-based designer completed a journey round the globe with some sharp navy tailoring that brought us back to a European base. Luciano Soprani kept us firmly in Milan, where his easy, studied casual clothes are what most Italian women want to wear.

A competition to design new uniforms for the policewomen of Rome inspired Karl Lagerfeld at Fendi to some of his finest tailoring. A pair of white feather wings for the "guardian angel of your personal security" showed his designs to be tongue in chic.

The apron was Fendi's other piece of

wit. It came up instead of a shirt top, in every kind of fabric from linen to jute to plastic to suede. It was most stunning as a navy and white striped butcher's apron over a suede fishtail skirt. The bow - particularly strong on silky black swimsuits - was another Lagerfeld theme in a collection that was alive with ideas, including the use of school-tie striped fabrics that gave another dimension to the idea of a uniform.

After starting out with a street party under a snow-white canopy for 2,000 people, the fashion week finishes tonight with an exhibition of portraits of leading fashion designers, including Armani, Versace and Krizia. This being Milan, the painter is the pop artist Andy Warhol and they are making it into an art-happening, a fashion event - and a party.

Photographs: Harry Kerr

moreover...
Miles Kington

Blanket coverage for Lech

Next week is Lech Walesa Week

Yes, Moreover salutes Lech Walesa, the darling of Stockholm, the man they call the Arthur Schopenhauer of Poland, with a week-long festival of features dedicated to this brave man who has fought all his life for better conditions for shipyard workers. There being no Nobel Prize for Shipyard Struggles, the Nobel people have wisely decided to give him the Peace Prize instead. We applaud that decision!

Accordingly, we have commissioned articles from the greatest journalists of our time, sent out the finest photographers and lined up the prettiest girls in the best traditions of British newspapers, for an action-packed, get-up-and-go week of Polish pride.

On Day One, there will be an in-depth interview with the man himself, in which he will tell readers how he would have managed the Boycott Affair, what changes he would bring to *The Sunday Times*, and why Solidarity is called Solidarity in Poland, which, of course, is really called Polzka or something similar. He looks ahead, too, with frank thoughts on his chances of getting into the Labour Shadow Cabinet or of even one day becoming Pope.

On Day Two, we print an exclusive interview with Pat Phoenix, in which she talks frankly about "Lech and Me", and we go behind the scenes of Coronation Street to see some of the stresses and strains that have led to her giving it all up. Will she go to Poland to join Lech? Will she go to Oslo to receive his Prize if he cannot leave Poland? All will be revealed. Also, "Why Poles Make Great Lovers", by our team of psychologists.

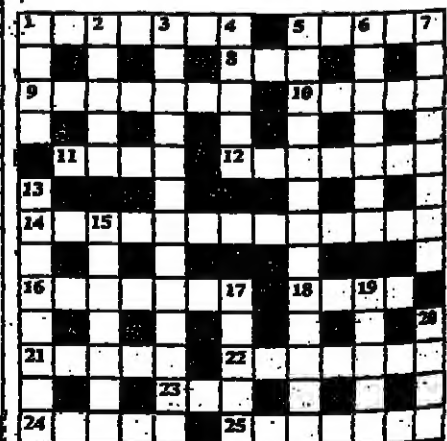
Day Three is Gdansk Day, when we take an intimate look at this ancient ship-building port and come across some surprising nooks and crannies that make this such a wonderfully unspoiled holiday place. Cafes, discos, bars, butcher's shops with meat in secret supplies of petrol - we tell you everything you need to know for your Gday-out in Gdansk! Also, a brand-new competition in which you can win an ocean-going tanker made in Gdansk by members of Solidarity.

A lighter note on Day Four, when we take a look at the Wonderful Wacky World of Walesa's Wit and Wisdom. How did this cheeky little chap with the moustache, moustache and rebellious twinkle come to be as much Poland's performer as Billy Connolly is for Glasgow or Alexi Sayle for somewhere in North London? What did he say to make the Pope laugh? What goes on at those Gdansk smoking concerts? And did you hear the one about General Jaruzelski and the French can-can dancer? All this, and more, in Thursday's tribute to Poland's own Harry Lauder.

Finally, on Day Five, we finish an unforgettable week with a look behind the scenes at Lech Walesa, the home-lover, the little-known Lech who loves horses, adores children and keeps a pack of savage fighting Polish mushrooms in his back garden. We look at the books in his library, we picture the curtains in his sitting room, we tramp all over his garden trying to take pictures and we drive his neighbours frantic trying to get some juicy quotes out of them. This will be British journalism at its best.

By Day Six, of course, we will all be bored stiff with the subject and be wondering how on earth they can give a prize to someone called Wales with an "a" on the end, and what chance a man called Lech Scotlanda would have. By Day Six, we'll have dropped Lech Walesa like a cold potato. But that's what British journalism is all about. So don't forget that, first, there'll be five glorious days of Walesa Week! Only in Moreover! Order your copies now, or just go and hide your head under a blanket.

(Also on Monday: the Special Moreover Blanket offer.)

CONCISE CROSSWORD
(No 169)

- ACROSS: 1 Vacation (7), 5 Steve cuds (5), 8 Wise bird (3), 9 Frenziedly violent, 10 Cook's garment (5), 11 Bread (4), 12 Lithe (7), 14 Way of working (5), 16 Tranquil (7), 18 Attendant youth (4), 21 Steam bath (5), 22 Grass-loom game (7), 23 Frozen water (3), 24 Warning light (5), 25 Lac resin (7).
- DOWN: 1 Tramp (4), 2 Slow passage (5), 3 French military scandal (7,6), 4 Country bumpkin (5), 5 Confined spaces (13), 6 Pursaken (7), 7 Plain type (8), 13 Food of gods (8), 15 Intrude on (7), 17 Shoe fasteners (5), 19 Tintin parrot (5), 20 Ocar (4).

SOLUTION TO No 168
ACROSS: 5 Gales 5 Impact 9 ESN 9 S
10 Column 11 Grit 12 Aerobics 14 Intelligence
17 Sandage 19 Gown 21 Famine 23 Ship
24 Dye 25 Basics 26 Rising
DOWN: 2 Uter 3 Apartheid 4 Sewal 5
6 Pal 7 Comical 13 Blue grass 15 N
16 Choozer 18 Needs 20 Odeon 21 C

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Three views of the one-piece. From left: Luciano Soprani's belted vest, Krizia's big cat and Versace's ruched stripes

Swimsuits ruched and bow-trimmed, star-studded and bondage-strapped made waves in Milan this week.

The shape of the season is the vest, a simple line in silky stretch fabrics, often with one shoulder piece or crossed straps at the back.

Asymmetry is the game designers play with the basic line. The normal female curves are flattened at one side by a ruched breastplate, bisected at an angle or divided up by blocks of

colour. The result is a new kind of geometry that is drawn with the set square as well as the compass.

Missoni had the shapeliest of swimsuits - scooped low at the neck and sliced high at the thighs. But curves were broken up by patterns of graphic squares.

Soprani had quiet shades of blue and brown, grey with violet, and made asymmetric statements with both cut and colour.

Laura Biagiotti let the body peep through key-hole cut-outs. Fendi's swimsuits winked at the world with glittering stars studding the simple shapes. Krizia's panther - eyes at the breasts and whiskers round the tummy - gave plain swimsuits a feline feeling.

Ferre's pearl grey or black and white vests were interesting constructions, with straps carving up the body line.

Gianni Versace squared the circle by using stark stripes and sharp angles - and then ruching the fabric across one breast or the hip to make straight lines into waves.

Milan's hip-line belt appeared on swimsuits, slashing the body asymmetrically, or caressing the derriere. Underneath this wide swathe of fabric peeped a tiny triangle that looked like fashion's female challenge to the codpiece.

FRIDAY PAGE

Plain Jane in a back-pack

Deborah Moggach meets Geraldine McEwan, optimist and portable actress

You can tell how long Geraldine McEwan has been at the National Theatre by a look at her dressing room. She has transformed this particular concrete cubicle into a second home. The walls are pinned with cards and posters, the table full of pot plants. One of these plants looks entirely dead but, as she says, you can always hope.

She is indeed an optimist, and with good reason. Fate has been kind to her, for at 16, when she was an unknown schoolgirl on her local Windsor stage, her acting talent was recognized. By the time she was 18 she was starring in her first West End success and being hailed as a "pixie-faced comedienne".

Now, at 51, she can look back on a stage and TV career which spans the Royal Shakespeare Company, the National Theatre, and commercial theatre and work with the best directors around. The only thing she's not done is to break through into films and become a big movie star. But then who wants to wear dark glasses whenever they go shopping?

She's happy where she is. At the moment it's the National Theatre, where she is currently playing in *The River* and *You Can't Take It With You*. And soon, touring the country, she's staging her own one-woman show, *Two Inches of Ivory*, based on the novels of Jane Austen.

Stepping out alone

After decades of working in the closed, hectic world of the theatre where, as she says "you're totally dependent on each other, and where so much is out of your control", there is a certain pleasure in stepping out alone into the fresh air, a theatrical rucksack on one's back.

With her one-woman show, she says, "I'm portable. I can take my Jane Austen show. My needs are simple - all I want is a stage." Most other artists, by necessity, have to work alone - writing a book or painting a picture can be all too solitary an effort. Actors, however, are only alone when they're out of work. Unless they take the initiative, and go back-packing.

The show's somewhat obscure title is based on a letter Jane Austen wrote to her nephew, describing "the little bit of ivory on which I work with so fine a brush". Austen's defined world suits itself particularly to the intimacy of a one-person show.

"No thunderstorms", says Miss McEwan. "No battles. Just those marvellous words. I've always loved Jane Austen. There's something so personal about her. Have you noticed how people mention her as if she's their secret friend? That's her special quality. Lord David Cecil, her biographer, talks about her as if she's his close relative and he just left her house this morning. Like all charming people, she seems to be talking to you and you alone."

She worked out the evening's format with her director, Richard Digby Day. Deciding that Austen didn't need trickiness, they simply planned key extracts from each of the books. "One might not realize it, but Jane Austen is highly dramatic", says Miss McEwan. "Her irony is contained within the dialogue, and dialogue makes up most of the books. This makes them wonderful to speak aloud. One must also remember that she wrote her books to be heard - in those days, people read to each other in the evenings. Her words are written for the voice."

"Her novels are full of life and suppressed strength. People don't always realize that. None of the television adaptations I've seen have captured this. They've simply taken the stories at face value and treated them as domestic comedies of middle-class manners - precious, precise and minuscule-plummy. They always look artificial."

Another pleasure is that her portable show has taken her out of the theatrical world she knows so well - unplugged her, so to speak, from the mains - and sent her into the world outside. She has been touring the show for the past 18 months, mounting it in provincial churches, schools and village halls. For the first time in her life she has been meeting ordinary people who never go to plays or who, if they do, have simply been seen as a blurred mass of faces beyond the footlights.

After all, she has worked in the theatre, non-stop, for 35 years. She is married within the profession - her husband is Hugh Craswell, head of RADA. Her friends are in the profession. And she lives in Barnes, a leafy, media ghetto a-murmur with voices learning their lines. "It's called London's Beverly Hills" she laughs. Outside interests? "None. Oh dear, if only I were Michael Hordern I could talk about my fishing."

She has never had any other job. From the tender age of 10, when she played the most understated Lady Macbeth in a school production, she



Geraldine McEwan: the marvellous words of Jane Austen

has never wanted to do anything else. "My family weren't theatrical, but they had no choice. I'm very stubborn. I didn't even have time to go to drama school. When I got to the West End I thought I ought to do something about my squeaky voice - I felt I was playing big parts with no equipment - so I had some lessons, but that was all."

She has huge eyes and a pointed face of great charm. Nobody could call her a conventional beauty, however, which is a blessing for an actress because it gives one greater

A longer working life

scope and a longer working life. There was some danger for her in the early years, of being typecast as a drawing-room comedienne, and later on, following a successful TV series, as Miss Brodie, but in each instance the danger was averted by a spell in the subsidized theatre. In the 1950s it was Stratford, and the celebrated production of *Twelfth Night*, directed by the young Peter Hall. Dorothy Tutin played Viola, and she played Olivia. "It was a completely new interpretation. Olivia was usually played as stately, serious and rather wet. I played her as impulsive, very young and dictatorial." Six years at the Old Vic followed. It was the golden era of Laurence Olivier, and he gave her a challenging selection of roles from

Feydeau farces to Strindberg. The birth of her two children barely interrupted this succession of work. "Looking back, I don't know how I weathered it or how they did. Of course, there's conflict between children and one's career. Many actresses have to give up, or compromise, but I couldn't. I remember that terrible moment, about four in the afternoon, when I'd be going off to the theatre. They sensed that children always do, and becoming cut off from the children. They sensed that distant look in my eyes. She called it my 'micky-picky face'."

The children are now grown-up, and her son has become an actor. "What if I had stopped? Now, if I weren't acting, what on earth would I be doing?" People think that actors are worldly and experienced. The hard-working ones are not. "You know nothing but your trade", she says. "You go into the theatre in the afternoon, and come out at night. Or you're filming all day, shut into an artificial set. It's a closed world. That's why it's so refreshing to get out of it for a while with Jane Austen."

She prunes, and looks at her display of congratulatory cards in this home-from-home dressing-room. "During you were marvellous in *The Mirror*," she smiles. "And, of course, that's what makes it so welcoming to come back."

State of the heart

MEDICAL BRIEFING



An article by Dr Wainwright Evans of Cambridge in *The Journal of the Royal College of Physicians* heralds the return of the battle of bed-rest against early mobilization for patients who have a coronary thrombosis.

In the 1950s, patients who had endured a heart attack were given a six-week sentence of a regime known as strict bed-rest. They were not allowed up, even to wash; indeed, they had to lie as flat as their heart condition would allow, initially feeding by taking fluids through a straw. The 1960s winds of change blew this doctrine away and patients were advised to walk early and to return to full activity without undue delay.

Dr Wainwright Evans is suggesting that the statistics on which the 1960s advice was based would not stand up to modern analysis, and that heart function and structure could not at that time be as thoroughly investigated as is necessary and is possible today. He suggests that until the results of more carefully monitored trials are available, it would be wise to recommend that patients should be in hospital for 21 days, with the first 14 days either in bed or sitting in a chair. A walk around the ward on the twelfth day would be allowed, but no strenuous activity for two or three months, by which time the star in the heart muscle will be firmly reconnected.

Sleepy surprise



Beta blockers have proved one of the most commonly prescribed and useful preparations available to doctors. They have a multiple of indications in cardiovascular medicine, as well as being occasionally used as mild tranquilizers. Patients are warned about their numerous side-effects when they start treatment.

Even so, last week news that Propranolol (Inderal ICI) could act as a contraceptive by making sperm too sleepy to swim to the ovum, came as a surprise to doctors, and a worry to those male patients who still had hopes of fatherhood. Unfortunately, the original reports did not make it clear that Inderal has a contraceptive action when used intra-vaginally; when taken by mouth in normal doses it has no contraceptive action as the seminal levels are raised only by the usual therapeutic doses to a thousandth of the level needed to inhibit sperm motility.

Work done on this project in the country has been confined to laboratory research, but in Chile there have been experiments on women patients. Details of the British research at Bart's conducted by Professor Turner are expected to be published soon in the *British Medical Journal*. ICI is not at present interested in pursuing this lead, but is developing other contraceptives which it considers more promising.

Wafer worry



Archbishop Warlock's problems when he takes communion wafers (*The Times Sept 24*) drew attention to coeliac disease almost at the same time as Sir Wilfred Sheldon, the world's great expert on the disease, died. His research work has enabled hundreds of thousands of children to mature normally, grow to their normal height and live with zest and vigour.

Only within the past 40 years has it been realized that the inability of patients to absorb fats and hence fat-soluble vitamins and calcium, was not because of a primary fat intolerance, but was secondary to changes in the lining of the small intestine induced by sensitivity to gluten, a protein found in wheat, rye, barley and oats. Removal of all gluten from the diet restores the structure of the intestine and produces a remission of the symptoms of fatty diarrhoea, abdominal pain and swelling.

Children, their balanced diet restored, start to thrive again, adults are spared the languor induced by being chronically anaemic, short of vitamins and undernourished. Rice and maize flour can be substituted in the diet for that made from gluten-containing cereals.

The Vatican rule that a wafer without wheat gluten is not bread and therefore disallowed carries obvious problems for a priest.

The disease in a much milder form has been shown to be more common than had been thought and must now be considered as a possible diagnosis in all cases of recurrent intestinal upsets and mild anaemia. A report from Edinburgh (*British Medical Journal*, Jan 8) suggests that the increase in the numbers suffering from this disease is in fact apparent rather than real and due to improved methods of diagnosis coupled with a greater awareness of the condition.

Just a drop



When asked about alcohol consumption there is a group of patients who smile smugly, deny taking alcohol in excess but then add a rider that on special occasions,

such as weddings, christenings, regimental dinners and office parties, they may have a drop more than is good for them. If these worthy people want to preserve their peace of mind they had better not read *The Lancet*.

An article on September 17 reviews the evidence linking so-called binge drinking with a stroke during the following 24 hours.

The Flins experts on binge drinking, have studied the admission rate to Fielstink hospitals, which has shown an association between heavy drinking sessions and a clot or haemorrhage in the brain. The admission rate increases at week-ends. Early reports from the United States, where a more searching investigation is being held, suggests that Finnish results will be confirmed.

Dr Thomas Stuttard
Medical Correspondent

TALKBACK

From Joanna Goyder, Manor House, Chapel St Mary, Ipswich.

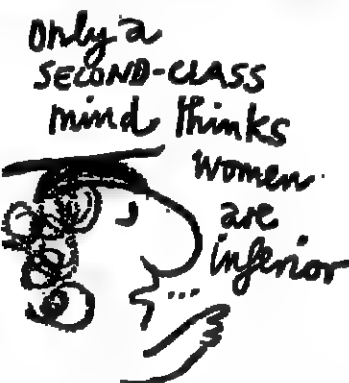
Jacki Davis says that new women undergraduates joining Corpus Christi, Oxford, may be in for a "rude awakening". Though I accept that experiences differ even within a particular college, I would suggest that freshmen arriving at Jesus, Cambridge, may be pleasantly surprised.

Academically, a girl certainly has to be as good as her male counterpart if she is to win equal respect for her work - but she does not actually have to be better. No man has ever offered to let me read his essay, but I was once asked to lend mine to a fellow student. I am certain that he did not regard my work, the product of a female mind, as any more unreliable than that of any of his friends, male or female.

However, this is not to say that opportunities to be "submissive" and "sock-washing" do not abound, if you wish to take advantage of them. In my first week I received a request from a contemporary to do his washing. I agreed at once - the only condition being that he did mine the following week! I did his washing, to the undisguised amusement of our friends, who thought it unlikely in the extreme that his side of the bargain would be kept. The next week, however, I left my dirty clothes with him and my trust proved well-founded, though even I was surprised by his offer to iron my shirts before returning them!

This cooperative arrangement continued happily throughout the year - and I should perhaps add that there was no ulterior motive present: this was a relationship of convenience between neighbours.

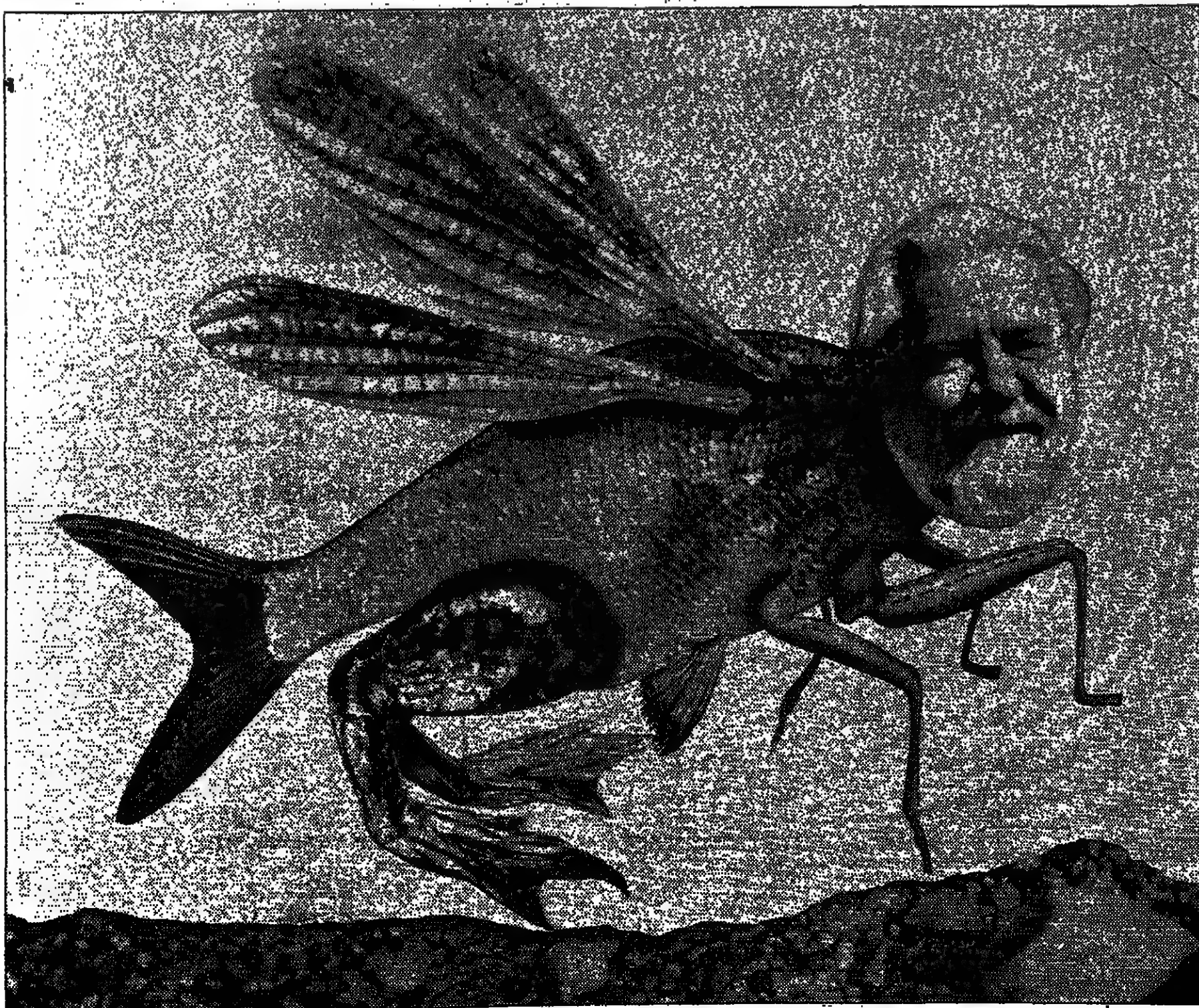
Prejudice is very often as much the responsibility of the women concerned as of the men, and an outrageous request like this is better met with an equally outrageous suggestion rather than with a raising of feminist hackles.



From Margaret Evans, Seven Kings High School, Hford, Essex. I read with interest Jacki Davis's article on "Equality", in which she wrote about attitudes to women in mixed colleges at Oxford.

I am sorry that she was irritated by the young man whom she regarded as patronising when he invited a first year woman to read his essay "because it might be helpful". In such a hostile world, I hope that the woman did not spur his bouquet of intellectual flowers. May I suggest to women students in such situations that they could offer their own essays in return. They should have similar confidence that their work is worth reading. They might even assist a man in gaining a virile first class degree.

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Selected animated films.
- 5.30 **The Abbott and Costello Show**
- 6.00 **The Coral Jungle**
Today, in Ben and Eva Cropp's exploration of Australia's Great Barrier Reef, they make the acquaintance of dolphins.
- 7.00 **Channel 4 News**
- 7.30 **The Friday Alternative**
The news programme with a difference.
- 8.00 **The Amateur Naturalist**
This week, Gerald and Lee Durrell find that a quiet pond in Kent isn't all that it seems, if you look a bit closer. Ferocious dragonfly larvae and inventive water spiders all add to the spectacle.
- 8.30 **A Week in Politics**
Politics under the eye of Peter Jay.
- 9.15 **Ladybirds**
This week the spotlight falls on Bertice Reading, one of the world's top black actresses, who tonight shows off her singing prowess.
- 10.00 **The Paul Hogan Show**
Comedy down-under style.
- 10.30 **Follow The Nation's Health**
Joan Shenton presents a discussion programme on the issue of cancer treatment arising out of last night's 'The Nation's Health'.
- 11.35 **What The Censor Saw**
The Miracle of Morgan's Creek (1944). Classic Preston Sturges comedy, starring Betty Hutton as small-town girl who gets pregnant by an unknown soldier, triggering off a series of chaotic events.

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CX Pallas IE (Auto)	2347cc Inj.	£9,280
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CX 20 Safari Estate	1995cc	£7,450
CX IE Safari Estate (5-speed)	2347cc Inj.	£8,950
CX IE Safari Estate (Auto)	2347cc Inj.	£9,235
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THE TIMES DIARY

Prime time

Unaccustomed as she was to running a war, the Prime Minister welcomed the wise advice offered to her during the Falklands campaign by one of her predecessors, Harold Macmillan.

Mrs Thatcher, whose political relationship with Macmillan is not intimate, is understood to have sought his views on several occasions as the crisis developed. This emerges from a television source after a rare interview which Macmillan, still sharp and sprightly despite the advance of his ninetieth birthday, recorded recently for BBC1 with Ludovic Kennedy.

The former prime minister, who was wounded three times during the First World War while serving with the Special Reserve Grenadier Guards, gave the interview for a programme which will celebrate the publication of his autobiography, *Harold Macmillan - a Life in Pictures*. The book, which includes many photographs from his own archives, will be published on October 27, when the programme will also be shown.

Though I understand the two prime ministers are fond of each other, this is believed not to have prevented Supermac from making acute comments about the Government on the programme.

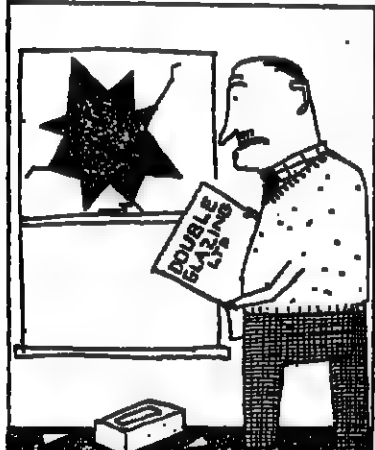
Dock leaves

Author Charles Nicholl found himself with an unexpected final chapter to his book on Colombia when he returned home recently. An expert on Elizabethan literature, Nicholl had accepted the commission from Heinemann while waiting for proofs of his Thomas Nashe biography to come back from Routledge. He had not bargained for the Good Friday earthquake at Popayan which nearly killed him nor for his arrest on return by Customs officers for possession of a class A drug. The handful of dried cocoa leaves discovered on him, a ceremonial gift from the Arhuaco Indians, was sent via the Botanical Gardens at Kew to the government chemist for analysis.

Cocaine content was found to be nil but no one had thought to inform Unbridge magistrates of the facts, and when Nicholl turned up this week armed with a humble letter of apology from the Commissioners of Customs he discovered they had set aside a whole day for the case. And because the clerk at the previous hearing had failed to note his guilty plea, the anxious author was forced to enter the dock and plead again before the charge could be dismissed.

● Michael Cocks, Labour's chief whip in the Commons since 1976, has reacted swiftly to reports that Neil Kinnock no longer requires his services. Cocks has told journalists that he has the unanimous support of all Labour MPs in the South-west. Cocks is the only one.

BARRY FANTONI



"It denies Which? magazine's report on hard selling techniques"

Nervous laugh

Brian Richards, the British doctor accused in the United States of plotting to murder the head of his Harley Street practice, has a special brand of humour. Richards contributes to *Vision* magazine, a bi-monthly magazine taken by 4,000 GPs. The month's issue features a five-minute spot, mostly written by him, on graffiti found in hospitals. Among the few printable items is: "Better a full bottle in front of me than a full frontal lobotomy", from the neurosurgery unit of an unnamed hospital.

In memoriam

Morbid memories of Labour's ill-fated campaign in the Bermondsey by-election were revived at the annual Tribune rally in Brighton yesterday. Peter Tatchell's election addresses were destroyed by the party earlier this year after it was discovered they had been printed by Militant's Cambridge Heath Press. Apparently only one copy survives. It was auctioned off for £36.50.

Le Nouveau, like Christmas, gets a little earlier each year. Under French law, Beaujolais Nouveau may not be sold until November 15, the date upon which all those silly races are held to get the first bottles of young wine on to British tables. The law, however, applies only to Beaujolais. This year Burgundy will be stealing some of Beaujolais' tonnerre by bringing out a nouveau on sale here from October 11, long before the annual champagne party under way. It is called Chabert Nouveau and is produced by Patrice Per et Fils of Beaune, owners of the largest cellars in Burgundy. The house is playing both ends against the middle because it also handles Beaujolais Nouveau.

PHS

Poland's prize predicament



Roger Boyes on the wider political implications of the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to Lech Walesa

are that the election will choose the waiting option, will cement his links with the Roman Catholic Church which has always counselled patience. Even with the prestige of the prize, the possibilities are not large, the scope for action restrained by the limits of Poland's economic crisis, the intransigence of the Government, vigilance of Poland's neighbours.

The real effect of the prize is to strike at the legitimacy of government policies towards Mr Walesa and, by extension, the Solidarity movement. The prize shows that the Government, a team of competent crisis managers and quite shrewd tacticians, has not boxed clever. It decided at too early a stage to exclude Mr Walesa from the national equation.

When the authorities released Mr Walesa in November 1982, after 11 months of internment, they trumped loudly that Mr Walesa was the former leader of a former union, a private individual representing nobody. Therefore no dialogue could be held with him. But over the past year, Mr Walesa's obtrusive

presence has proved a constant reproach to General Jaruzelski's Government, which claims that it is basing its policies on a real consensus and a constant dialogue with workers.

The solution offered by the collective brainpower within the Government has been a propaganda campaign that has repeatedly tried to discredit Mr Walesa in the eyes of his fellow workers. The logic behind this: if the workers reject Mr Walesa, then the fact that we are not talking to Mr Walesa cannot be held against us.

The Government always had a choice too: it could have tried to institutionalize Mr Walesa. By offering him a role - not within the new pro-government unions, which the former Solidarity leader could never have accepted - the authorities could have shown themselves ready to acknowledge Mr Walesa's standing among Polish workers.

Had the Government tried to shape some form of conciliation council with the co-operation of the Church, and then given Mr Walesa a chance to participate, it would have

muffled his presence and at the same time harnessed his myth. The Nobel Peace Prize would thus have been an award not only to the Polish workers but also to the Polish Government. Had Mr Walesa rejected such offers repeatedly, the Government could then have portrayed the Solidarity leader as a man of the past. As things stand, he is still a man of the undecoded future.

A warning signal must surely have been given by the Government when Pope John Paul II insisted on meeting Mr Walesa in June. (It is this meeting above all that allowed the Norwegian Nobel Committee to award the prize without running the risk of being accused of playing in the Polish political game.) This showed the continuing significance of Mr Walesa, even if that significance lies in a discreet "back-seat" role for the Solidarity chief. Because of a failure of political imagination, Mr Walesa has not been institutionalized but expelled into a vacuum.

Poland now faces the frankly absurd situation of a Nobel Peace laureate committing to work every day as a maintenance electrician in the Lenin shipyards. This is not the Soviet Union: Walesa is not Andrei Sakharov, who can simply be exiled to a provincial city.

Mr Walesa still has the respect of many workers, he has been given an explicitly public role by the Nobel committee, and the workers themselves have enough grievances against the Government for the whole mixture to be quite volatile. Oslo has helped to produce a strong and strange brew in Central Europe.

Bernard Levin: The way we live now

Reader's guide to groupuscules



Men of the left: Militant's Terry Grant (left) and Peter Tase at this week's Labour Party conference

shelters under the hospitable wing of the Institute of Economic Affairs (that fact alone guarantees that its work will be thorough and scholarly and will annoy a lot of people who deserve to be annoyed), from whom it may presumably be obtained.

Tracts beyond *The Times* is, strictly speaking, a guide not to the groupuscules themselves but to their publications; its sub-title is "A brief Guide to the Communist or Revolutionary Marxist Press". But most of the organizations are explained or defined, and a picture of them can be fully built up, *ex pede Hercules*, upon the details of their newspapers and magazines. And from those details, I assure you, there is much quiet joy to be had.

I flattered myself that the infinite sub-divisions of the left were fairly familiar to me; I erred. Just listen to the introduction to the pamphlet's introduction; it ought to be set to music, preferably by Berlioz:

... the Communist Party, the New Communist Party, the Militant Tendency, the Socialist Organiser Alliance, the Workers' Socialist League, the Socialist Workers' Party, the International Marxist Group, the Workers' Revolutionary Party, the Marxist Collective, the Workers' Power Group, the Revolutionary Communist Party, the International Communist Current (that might be a misprint for Current, particularly since most of these people are plainly as nutty as a fruit-cake). Big Flame, the Black Unity and Freedom Party, the Revolutionary Communist Group, the Spartacist League, the Workers' Party, the Revolutionary Communist League of Great Britain, the Revolutionary Communist Party of Britain and the Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist).

As you may suppose, none of the members of any of these organizations would willingly share a coffin, let alone a taxi, with any of their rivals, and wonderful to behold is the mutual animosity that goes on among them.

The Spartacist League calls itself Trotskyist but defends the Soviet

Union... However this does not prevent it from denouncing the "Moscow-loyal Straight Left" or the "vicarious Third World cheerleaders of the RCG - formerly a pseudo-Trotskyist group". The League is equally contemptuous of CND and the "fake-revolutionaries like the Communist Party, Socialist Workers' Party and International Marxist Group, whose aims are quite compatible with Mr Bruce Kent". (I could hardly have put it better myself.)

Well, the Spartacist League certainly has rigorous standards of exclusiveness, though not quite as rigorous as those of the Workers' Party, which appears to have only one member, who is presumably always unanimous; the party (or "he", as it is no doubt called for short) is "both Trotskyist and pro-USA and claims to be the only truly Communist Party in Britain".

But that is a claim made by virtually every one of these bodies and regularly repeated in their journals. And if the pleasure of murmuring the names of the organizations is great, greater still is that of rolling round the tongue the names of their papers:

... Revolutionary Socialism, Chile Fights, The Worker, Communist Focus, Link, Critique, World Revolution, The Leninist, Proletarian, Class Struggle, The New Step, Class Fighter, Spartacist Brigade, Troops and Tribunes (whatever became of Mr John Salkin's attempt to prise loose the hold of the Bennites on "Troops and Tribunes", whatever became of Mr Salkin?)

It hardly needs emphasizing that no ordinary person, and few extraordinary ones, could tell the difference between any one of these groups and any other, nor understand the doctrinal differences by which they may be distinguished, let alone find intelligible the mutual detestation felt for each other by organizations which seem to hold absolutely

identical views. Certainly Mr Elwell, who must have read, in the course of producing this report, more columns of gibberish than any other man alive or dead, wisely makes no attempt to classify the rival ideologies beyond what is necessary to establish the identity of the organizations.

He is thorough, none the less; he even lists the firms who specialize in typesetting and printing the papers, though what happens when two rival journals have the same press day and their staffs meet at the works I cannot imagine; the printers' insurance premium must be ruinous. Mr Elwell also goes into the finances of the groups and their publications, and discusses, without conclusively resolving, the difficult question of nomenclature; the old view, that to call a man a communist meant that he was a member or adherent of the CP, is clearly no longer adequate, yet no other word or phrase will really do - Marxist, Trotskyist (which would anyway rule out most of the Moscow-oriented groups), extremist, left (which now has to be subdivided into "soft left", "hard left", "traditional left", "broad left" and many another left).

Tracts Beyond *The Times* is a valuable guide to an almost impossibly fragmented subject; it will have to be revised and up-dated regularly if it is not to lose its usefulness, because the publications it deals with, and for that matter the organizations which publish them, tend, even when they are not splitting for ideological reasons, to go out of existence fairly frequently, sometimes resurfacing later with a new name. Besides, those who read the pamphlet for pleasure alone should not be deprived of further editions with new forms of delight as these become available. Meanwhile, the guttural growl, and the rattling of wheels denotes the coming of the coalman, not the tumbrils.

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Brazil suffers, but is it enough?

São Paulo The wave of looting at supermarkets and food shops that began in Rio de Janeiro and spread to São Paulo, is petering out after more than 200 incidents. The Rio state governor, Leonel Brizola, has now said that soup kitchens will be set up for the growing number of destitutes in Rio. At the last count, there were 7,000 beggars in the city centre.

But the Brazil's wave of social disturbances continues to grow. Apart from an average of five armed bank robberies almost every week-day, 250 graves were robbed in São Paulo last month and Molotov cocktails were thrown at the US consulate. Four hundred unemployed are now camped out in São Paulo's main park, under the windows of the State Assembly, making the Governor, Franco Montoro, regret having said that thousands of jobs would be created in the wake of last April's riots.

Not all of this, can be blamed directly on the belt-tightening measures taken to meet the demands of the IMF and Brazil's 2,000 creditor banks. But the intensifying recession of the past three years - its first stage an attempt to ward off the drastic recipes of the fund itself, the present, more acute phase, trying

actually to fulfil them - has certainly been in response to outside pressures.

Industry will produce 7 per cent less this year than last, on top of a 10 per cent fall in the previous two years. One in five factory workers have now been sacked in the big cities, and this could reach one in three by the end of next year. Giving the number of unemployed, perhaps three million, is almost meaningless, there being no unemployment benefit in Brazil. More to the point is that 900,000 people are now gathering waste paper, collecting scrap, sifting rubbish, or hawking things in the street, in the six largest cities alone.

The building industry, first step on the ladder for the hundreds of thousands who flood to the cities each year, is at half capacity, and still shrinking. Some 45,000 building workers have been laid off in Rio so far this year, 65,000 in São Paulo.

The five-year drought which has been intensifying in the nine states of the north-east cannot be blamed on the IMF either. That its effects have become so dramatic, however, is partly the result of recent priorities aimed at integrating Brazil fully into the world economic community. This was to be done

through increasing trade, and by investing in the vast dollar-thirsty projects, so appealing to bankers, which are largely responsible for the huge debt. Social problems were expected to be automatically solved by a "filter down" process, which has not come about.

The IMF insists that subsidies for food, which undoubtedly boost inflation but also help to keep food prices down, should be eliminated. Partly as a result, food purchases are down by an average of 5 per cent, and by a third in some poor areas. Yet only a third of Brazilians have an adequate diet as it is, and 45 per cent of potential recruits called up by the armed forces have to be rejected for some physical deficiency, generally caused by malnutrition.

The deteriorating situation in the north-east, putting tremendous pressure on precarious facilities, has helped cause infant mortality rates to soar, and in Ceará State a quarter of all babies now die before they reach their first birthday.

Brazil has finally reached its second agreement with the IMF after months of agonizing negotiations. If the economy shrinks by about 5 per cent this year (a figure magnified by the 2.7 per cent annual

rise in population) things will be far tougher next. If inflation is cut by two thirds, public spending will be further squeezed.

One side effect of producing larger trading surpluses - the only way by which the snowballing of the debt can be slowed, let alone reduced - means that a larger proportion of the now continually shrinking cake has to be exported. Governments in many countries reportedly consider that Brazil should be taught a lesson for the economic errors which have brought it to its present straits. But there is also a body of opinion which considers that there is no realistic prospect of a return to the sustained economic growth, which would be the solution to Third World debt.

So the heroic sacrifices now being made by Brazil will not improve a situation which depends on an upturn in trade to succeed. Those responsible for the economic errors are not those now being called on to suffer for them through starvation, higher infant mortality, a higher and more bizarre crime rate, and roaming the streets trying to turn an honest penny. It is excellent raw material for a real revolution. Do the bankers want that?

Patrick Knight

David Watt

The dangers of a Churchill posture

Margaret Thatcher's extraordinary outburst against the Soviet Union in Washington last week has attracted enough criticism to keep her happy for weeks. I say "happy" because she has got the goat of liberals all right, and I suspect there is nothing she likes better, especially if they are in her own party.

If she read Mr George Walden's attack on the speech on this page earlier this week, for instance, she will probably have been torn between emotions of outrage ("What could you expect from a man who came straight out of that awful Foreign Office on to the Tory benches in June?") and pure joy ("Well, that got to them, then").

There is no doubt, all the same, that most Conservative professionals think she made a serious political error in domestic terms, whatever the merits or demerits of the speech in the purely international context. Public opinion in this country is not "soft on communism" and they admire the Prime Minister's spirit and determination; but they are becoming genuinely frightened about East-West relations and want to know what the Government is doing to prevent "a drift to war". Mrs Thatcher's reply in Washington appeared to be "Nothing, because there is nothing to be done" - except carry a big stick and shout self-congratulatory slogans to keep our courage up. The negativity of this approach does not measure up to the seriousness of the issue, and however the Prime Minister may have sounded to American ears she sounded shrill to many British ones.

All this prompts the question - how did she get into this pickle? Part of the answer is, of course, embedded deeply in Mrs Thatcher's political style. A tendency to tip over from resolution to shrillness is one that even her greatest admirers recognize as her political Achilles' heel. But though she is sometimes impulsive, she seldom throws political calculation entirely to the winds. And in this case a number of the rational judgments either implicit in the speech or now attributed to her by her supporters, are worth looking at with an open mind.

The first of these is the desire to reassure the Reagan administration. I have often written here that this is perfectly respectable aim. We depend on the US for nuclear protection and if the fashionable trend in Establishment circles here is continued, we shall be even more dependent than we are already. By this I mean that if we are to reduce our dependence on battlefield and intermediate-range nuclear weapons in Europe, this will not just mean increasing our conventional forces at great expense, it will also entail our increased dependence on the willingness of the US President to risk annihilation on behalf of Europe by pushing the button of a strategic weapon if the Russians used nuclear weapons in Europe first.

In the circumstances, it certainly behoves European politicians to indicate to US governments and Congress that we are on the same side as they are and are prepared to bear a fair share of the burden. It may even be in the interests of Britain to be more supportive than other European countries in this respect. But that should not, and need not involve parroting whatever the current Administration line may be. For one thing, it is unnecessary. Harold Macmillan, for example, was

and was known to be the most pro-American of prime ministers but he took care to distinguish his views from those of Eisenhower or Kennedy and to exploit a nice British line in wise, slightly world-weary detachment much appreciated on both sides of the Atlantic.

Moreover it does not do justice to the fact that we are not in the same relation to the Soviet Union as the US. We lack the resources to accept the global responsibility of containing "Soviet expansion", even when we agree that "containment" is appropriate. We have regional interests in Europe which give us a different perspective from America's - as Mrs Thatcher herself acknowledged when she sided with Europe rather than the US in the gas pipeline affair.

Of course, it is tempting to imply 150 per cent agreement with the President, especially when you are telling him that British troops will leave before a lot earlier than he would like, but the danger is that unrealistic expectations are aroused by these means both in the US and in Britain and the subsequent sense of betrayal may be all the worse.

There is no point wasting time on the second calculation Mrs Thatcher is supposed to have made: that tough talking by the British Prime Minister will have some practical effect on Soviet behaviour. It is so absurd that I do not believe that the Prime Minister really entertains it herself. But what about the supposed effect on the British public? Will not this rallying call stiffen our backbones and make us less susceptible to the blandishments of neutralist propaganda? Isn't this what Churchill, in whose honour Mrs Thatcher spoke, was up to?

Here, it seems to me is the real flaw in the Prime Minister's attitude to these matters. She sees herself in the wrong heroic context. The wretched analogy with the 1930s and the appeasement of Hitler has in varying contexts misled generations after generations of politicians on both sides of the Atlantic. It was the undoing of Anthony Eden in relation to Nasser; it seduced John Kennedy and lured Lyndon Johnson to destruction, it obsessed Casper Weinberger and Ronald Reagan, and now it apparently affects Margaret Thatcher's wits as well.

The difference between the situation in the 1930s and now are legion but two are sufficient to dispose of the question: 1. We, unlike the British public opinion to which Churchill was appealing, have long since accepted the nature of the threat. We have willingly paid a high economic price for our freedom for the last 34 years and according to the opinion polls are prepared to go on paying it. Mrs Thatcher may think we should pay even more, but I doubt whether any vituperation against the Soviet Union will affect the argument about the Falklands, which is where the defence expenditure she really pinches.

2. Churchill had no responsibility in the 1930s. He was free to say what he liked and did so with the more gusto because he believed, rightly, that war was inevitable, anyway by 1936. Mrs Thatcher is Prime Minister of Britain, part of a strong military alliance with a solid public opinion behind her. She has no need of posturings and nor do we. War is not inevitable because we have deterred it. What we need now, perhaps, as Churchill might have said, is more jaw-jaw.

Philip Howard

Time is not on our side, Lady Copper

"Well, I can see it is good fun. But reviewing books is not really work, is it? Not what I call proper work?"

"Up to a point, Lady Copper. But at least there are some pretty paradoxes about the game of reviewing."

1. The Waste Paper Paradox. You may suppose that the literary critic spends all day in an armchair with his or her nose buried in the latest good book. Wrong. The publishing industry, which has the most powerful publicity machine of any after the travel and possibly the property industries, vomits out so many circulars, puffs, "personal letters" beginning "Dear Philip, I make it a practice never to write to literary editors, but in this particular instance... take in stock list ed letter no 3, Miss Smith," and assorted waste paper, that you get time to read a real book only in bed or the bathroom. And they try to telephone you there, also.

2. The hissing serpent paradox. The famous reviews that linger in the memory are the stinkers. Can you remember any review by Dorothy Parker other than ones in which she is heaving the old harpoon into the quivering flesh of the author? "This is not a novel to be tossed aside lightly; it should be thrown with great force." This paradox suggests something not entirely agreeable about human nature and journalism, taking pleasure in the disasters of others. What on earth is the point of using your very limited space for book reviews on doing a dance of derision on bad books, when you could be recommending good books? The answer, Lady Copper, is that a page of fulsome honey and flowers is unreadable and unread. What we want is constructive criticism, which sometimes seems paradoxical as a taste for pleasant combined with disapproval of blood sports.

3. The numbers paradox. The review of one book is usually better criticism and better journalism than a review of several books together. So what do you do at a time of year like this when there are more than 20 novels being published every week? Select one for a proper review

and forget about the others? Or find reviewers who can somehow manage to discuss four (five? ten?) novels intelligently and wittily in 800 words? Perhaps we should give more space to fiction. OK, Lady Copper, provided that we accept the corollary that there will be less space for seminal, innovative, creative (and all the other Lit Crit hurra-words) books of politics, biography, poetry, and history; not forgetting "new" topical books that catch the eye of the news desk and stimulate the Press Association into pouring out paperfalls of "news" evaporated from the book.

4. The critical paradox. Are we in business to provide a reader service, listing as many books as possible? To write serious criticism, which will affect perceptions of the book and the world? To write lively journalism that will keep the attention of the little old lady in Hastings; attention which is being competed for by two cats? As the old *Times* proconsul said, tearing up Claude Cockburn's first dispatch from Washington and dropping it in the waste-paper-basket: "On this occasion, Cockburn, the cat won. The answer, Lady Copper, is we have to try to do all three things, and several lesser ones."

5. The perfectionist paradox. To write a proper review of an important book, which the author may have spent a life-time writing, is a serious, rather an awesome business. One could spend a week, a month, three months, on doing it justice. Such time is not available in the hurly-burly and the little disturbances of daily journalism. There comes a time, about 7.30pm on a Tuesday, when you must stop rewriting and polishing, and deliver the right number of words, even though they are not perfect. Perfection is not available on this side of the heavenly book room. One definition of journalism is making the best of a paradoxical job in a hurry.

There are plenty more paradoxes, Lady Copper. But I see a verdigris light coming into your eyes. I think! So what do you do at a time of year like this when there are more than 20 novels being published every week? Select one for a proper review



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

A PATRIOT FOR LABOUR

About the great questions of principle and policy which divide his party, Mr Neil Kinnock had nothing to say in his first speech to the Labour Conference since his election as leader. His theme was unity. "Coherent, persistent unity" was essential for victory. The enemy without could not be defeated by groups and warring factions within the party, and the defeat of the enemy was what mattered. "There must be no activity in the Labour Party that is superior to that purpose." The diagnosis was indisputable, but how is unity to be achieved convincingly, and with honour, in a party so divided as Labour is on essentials? Are principles to be swallowed for unity's sake, and if so, whose?

That question was, understandably, not even touched on. Mr Kinnock preferred to dwell on what unites the party which was sensible enough, tactically. Nothing could have been gained by trying yesterday afternoon to produce even the hint of an answer to the nuclear arms question that had so divided the conference the day before that it had again voted two ways at once. By common consent (Mr James Callaghan and Dr Gavin Strang notwithstanding) the Conference had determined to let sleeping dogs lie for the time being.

It would therefore have made

no sense for Mr Kinnock to arouse them, and the same is true of economic policy. Sooner or later these questions will have to be dealt with in substance and not simply by empty compromise. In the meantime, however, Mr Kinnock could safely concentrate on what unites all wings of the Labour Party, Mrs Thatcher's alleged attack on the welfare state.

The Conservatives would be foolish to ignore the stimulus that this could provide for Labour unity at a time when their own problems with welfare spending are becoming more difficult. Under a leader who can articulate their case as well as Mr Kinnock did yesterday, Labour could be inspired by it to relegate their other differences, particularly if the public's approval of Mrs Thatcher seemed to be declining. The Government would, however, be still more mistaken to underestimate the attraction of what Mr Kinnock has to say on this subject to a wider public. How, he demanded, could it be said that we could not afford welfare when the Government's policies drive down the investment and output which could pay for welfare?

The fallacy of an argument which ignores the damage done to competitive production by eroding money values as a result of over-borrowing by the Government should be clear

enough. Yet emotionally, Labour's argument is powerful, and when Mr Kinnock says that welfare economies are made by ministers who do not understand the needs of "real" people he wields a potentially powerful weapon. By calling into aid Churchill, who "gloried" in participating in the foundation of the welfare state, and comparing this with Mrs Thatcher's alleged attempt to terminate it, Mr Kinnock asserted that the Government's approach is mean-minded and Labour's is the true patriotism.

Yesterday he called on people outside Labour's ranks, who had never voted for it, to help defend the health service, and he spoke of the patriotism of democratic socialism, interpreted as the patriotism of peace, justice and care. It is Mr Kinnock's gift to be able to express his socialism in terms of noble aspiration rather than mean resentment, which makes him more effective than Mr Foot. The questions he has not answered are the ones that matter. But the Government is not explaining itself very well, and yesterday Mr Kinnock showed a new determination to divert attention from Labour's problems by focusing on those that embarrass Mrs Thatcher. This could provide a breathing space within which what is still the principal opposition party might get its act together.

THE PARKINSON AFFAIR

It is only legitimate to discuss the Parkinson affair because Mr Parkinson has made it so. He could have stood pat on the principle that his private life was not the concern of others beyond his family and friends. That would have been a perfectly respectable position and should have commanded respect. He did not. By making a statement in the early hours of yesterday morning he put his private life into the public domain, and once that is done, it is no longer in his power to define, let alone to control, the limits of discussion about its detail.

This is unfortunate for a number of reasons. It is unfortunate for his family and for Miss Keays's family. They have all been unnecessarily hurt beyond the distress which they would anyway have felt about the episode. That is always the sad fallout of people in public life, whose private behaviour then becomes public property, too. It is unfortunate because it has inevitably put the Prime Minister and her colleagues on the defensive, over a matter which should be of no concern to the government. It is unfortunate because it has given the public an opportunity for one of its periodic fits of false morality and hypocrisy. With luck, that opportunity will not be taken.

Was it necessary for Mr Parkinson to reveal these details about his private life? Only he can say, but if necessary, he has now done the right thing by staying at his post? One consequence of making this episode the subject of a public announcement is that it becomes legitimate to pass judgement on his behaviour as a whole.

It is undeniable that it would have been politically more convenient for the Prime Min-

ster if Mr Parkinson had resigned as a result of this announcement. She would no doubt have accepted his resignation reluctantly. The rest of his party might then have felt that though the reputation of the Government had been dented somewhat by the episode, it had been more than atoned for by such a prompt resignation from a promising member of the Prime Minister's team who after a decent interval would doubtless have been offered and felt able to accept another senior appointment.

Politically that might have been more convenient, but there was no political necessity for it. It was a balance of judgment. No doubt Mr Parkinson had to weigh the cost of resigning against the consequence of staying put. The Prime Minister is a hard political taskmaster but she is a loyal friend, particularly to fellow-politicians in personal trouble. In this case her loyalty is assisted by the fact that the episode has in no way impaired Mr Parkinson's ability to carry out his function as Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

And yet the episode leaves a bad taste in the mouth. It is not that Mr Parkinson's career prospects of very high office must now be blighted, though they are. Nor is it the invidious juxtaposition of his personal difficulties with his previous role as Chairman of the Conservative Party, which in its ethos and traditions has always articulated the merits of family life. It is not even the curious wording of Mr Parkinson's statement which hints that an offer of marriage to Miss Keays was made, only to be withdrawn.

The aftertaste comes from the unstable state of society's attitude to sexuality. We all know

only too well that, whatever society's aspirations to the contrary, life in this land is full of split homes, illegitimacy, and one-parent families. Why then does the public expect its leaders to preserve the outward forms of a morality which it no longer practises, if it ever did? In examining this instability, we must begin by overcoming our sense of our own virtues for fear of falling into vice on the other side.

There seems to be a doubt whether our existing moral concepts and the legal framework founded on them gives society adequate guidance about sex. There was a reaction against a too repressive morality. That led to a point where sexuality seemed to break through into every conceivable field where it does not belong. Yet a direct and spontaneous expression of sexuality is a natural occurrence and, as such, never ugly. It is only moral repression that seeks to make sexuality on the one hand dirty and hypocritical, or, in the reaction to that, shameless and blatant. The struggle here and the sense of uncertainty is caused by society's fear of allowing its natural instincts to develop, thereby causing some slackening in its sense of morality.

There will be the usual cant about "security". That is just an excuse for prurience in this case as in most others concerning the marital infidelities of politicians. They have been a more or less constant feature of the British political scene for as long as there have been Cabinets. Mr Parkinson has made a sad and silly blunder. His political career will suffer, his personal life has obviously suffered more. The real victims, for whom no sympathy is enough, are Mrs Parkinson and Miss Keays.

DECOMPRESSION PAINS

The transition from military to civilian rule, from dictatorship to democracy, is rarely smooth at the best of times. In Argentina, it is not the best of times. Accelerating inflation forced the union leadership to concede demands for a general strike on Tuesday, a strike that was overwhelmingly successful in turn-out but which in current economic circumstances can bring no lasting gains. A Patagonian judge has arrested a Central Bank governor, jeopardising critical negotiations of the country's foreign debt. The different branches of the armed services take different semi-public stands on this question, as on so many others. The Rattenbach report on the conduct of the Falklands War hangs over some heads, the question of responsibility for the post-1976 repression over many more. President Bignone admits to "encountering serious difficulties", and some sources close to the military even hint that he may not last out the short weeks that remain before the elections on October 30.

Argentina has strong institutions and a weak constitution. The armed forces, the political parties, the unions - even the courts - have alternated in the ascendancy. At one time soldiers have behaved as if judges did not exist, and at another, a judge behaves as if he could stop an army - or at least a central bank with a junta behind it. The disastrous policies of the last Peronist governments can only be explained by their knowledge that their span would be brief, and that it was therefore rational to make hay while the sun shone. Despite the restrictions on their activities imposed after 1976, the unions show no loss of strength, and the chiefs must follow the rank and file for fear of being swept aside. If, as we sincerely hope, elections take place at the end of this month, the vote will be high and the contest between Peronists and Radicals a closer one than in the recent past.

We have a particular interest in this process, not just the general one of welcoming an-

other return to democracy in Latin America, where that battered concept refuses to admit defeat. The differences between Great Britain and Argentina will not, of course, disappear with the return of an elected government, but new voices will be heard and to assess the weight of what they say, we will have to become more familiar with what was before last year a distant spectacle that did not much affect us. No Argentine politician will wish to go too far or too fast in restoring relations with this country, but among the Peronists as well as among the Radicals, there are figures who afford some hope for at least beginning to find ways out of the current blind impasse. We should therefore wish President Bignone luck for the remainder of his term and hope that nothing interrupts the scheduled elections. Elections are not a certain cure for Argentine ills, but there is no other possible remedy, and no other course can free the Prometheuses of the pampas from the twin torments of civilian irresponsibility and military excess.

Way to win the ideological war

From Mr G. Alan Thompson

Sir, Mrs Thatcher is right to remind us all of the global ideological struggle for the hearts and minds of men, the outcome of which is likely to determine our future.

A large part of the globe is controlled already by some form of Marxist government or military dictatorship. Many people in the Third World dislike equally the organised materialism of the East and the selfish materialism of the West, but are led to believe the former is more likely to bring about the changes they feel are needed.

Many in the West who would never join a Marxist party fail to understand the war of ideas, and assist the spread of Marxism by the way they live.

The ideological struggle will only be won when we have a superior ideology. It is not enough to talk about freedom, which is often used for purely selfish ends. A militant moral ideology which denies the existence of God can only be overcome by an ideology based on an unshakable commitment to search for and follow the will of God, living in the light of his absolute standards of honesty, purity, unselfishness and love.

There is clear evidence that people in different walks of life in many countries who have accepted the need for change in their own lives have found new attitudes and motives. This has led them to take constructive action which has profoundly affected the life of whole communities and sometimes of nations. Marxists who have seen that human nature can be changed have accepted this new thinking and living.

The best hope for peace in our perilous world lies neither in unilateral or multilateral disarmament but in moral and spiritual rearmament.

Yours faithfully,
G. ALAN THOMPSON,
45 Butterfield Road,
Wheatthorpe, Salford,
Greater Manchester,
M6 6PU.

October 3.

From Dr M. Bialoguski
Sir, Mrs Thatcher has drawn an analogy between the Soviet Union and pre-war Germany. The analogy was apt except for one important aspect. The Nazi regime in Germany had overwhelming support from her people. The Soviet government has not.

The Russians have allowed themselves to be trapped in a secret police system of such pervasiveness and ingenuity that there is no way in which they can rid themselves of it. And I firmly believe that, given a chance, they would.

It is both unwise and unfair, therefore, to equate them with the Nazis. On the contrary, great care should be taken to differentiate between the Soviet regime and the peoples it enslaves.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL BIALOGUSKI,
Poyning,
Waterhouse Lane,
Kingswood, Surrey.

Hygiene in prisons

From Dr P. A. Trafford

Sir, The Prison Medical Association welcomes the action of the Prison Governors' Association in bringing to public notice the standards of hygiene now prevailing in some penal establishments. Prison medical officers have repeatedly drawn attention to this state of affairs in their periodical hygiene reports, but little or no action has resulted.

Members of my association now hope to see some positive steps to reduce overcrowding in prisons and to improve toilet facilities, bathing arrangements, clothing exchanges, etc.

I am, etc.
P. A. TRAFFORD, Chairman,
Prison Medical Association,
HM Prison,
Cambridge Road, Bristol.
September 30.

Envoy recalled

From the Ambassador of Nicaragua

Sir, May I refer to the report in *The Times* of September 30 under the heading "Envoy recalled".

The Spanish Government has decided to change its Ambassador to Nicaragua. The decision to do this was taken some months ago. Contrary to your report, relations between Nicaragua and Spain are normal and very friendly.

The ETA incident in Central America is being used by the right in Spain against the Prime Minister and his Government.

Yours faithfully,
FRANCISCO D'ESCOTO,
Ambassador,
Nicaraguan Embassy,
8 Gloucester Road, SW7.

Hospital cuts

From Mr Nigel H. Harris

Sir, It is plainly sensible for organisations employing large numbers of staff to review at intervals their cost-effectiveness. In the case of hospitals, it would be negligent in the extreme if the health authorities did not regularly decide if the patients (not the staff) were receiving the highest standard of care within the limits of the available taxpayers' money.

There is little doubt that health authorities would not make the effort to obtain value for money unless they were provoked by Government policies, whilst private hospitals have no choice but to be cost-effective, or to go out of business.

Public debate should concentrate on which staff can be removed without affecting the care of patients. It is tragic that the Department of Health has asked for staff cuts in hospitals across the board. I have asked before, and it is

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Distant prospect of council savings

From the Chief Executive of Merseyside County Council

Sir, How very fortunate that on the day when you published the letter from the Leader of Sefton district council (September 27) you produced a major leading article referring to common sense. The words used in your article and the thought behind them do more than enough to counter-balance what was said by the councillor.

Why doesn't Councillor Watson state in precise and not general terms where the "considerable savings" are going to come in terms of staff? Services are going to be passed to the districts. The fire service is one of them. This county council, with the objective of rationalising its service and saving money, proposed to close (and ultimately did close) a major fire station in the area. Which district council was the only one to object? Councillor Watson's Sefton.

Is it not true that when this county council was created in 1974 there emerged one chief fire officer in place of the previous eight? Is it not equally true that a passing of that service to the districts will mean the replacement of that one with five? It is hard to be confident of considerable savings when those simple facts are analysed.

Councillor Watson does not want to see district councils obliged to take staff from the county council, as happened (with Lancashire) in 1974. So who is going to do the work inherited? The existing staff of Sefton? If so, what have they been doing for the last nine years? Waiting for the county to disintegrate so that they will have a real job?

Councillor Watson's Sefton is unique amongst the districts of Merseyside. Sefton refused to take a place on the county council's economic development committee. More recently Sefton refused a place on our tourism committee.

It was Sefton who rejected the county council's suggestion to the districts that we should work in collaboration to present a case for this area to Michael Heseltine at the start of his year in Merseyside, and particularly that we should work together to show how Government grants sometimes impacted unfairly on us all. Sefton described that as being "whining", in which they would have no part.

Which authority was it, a year later, which was leading about in the columns of the press complaining about the same system? Councillor Watson's Sefton. The record of Sefton in all these matters is one of non-co-operative, non-collaborative isolationism.

In my judgment an open inquiry into the government of metropolitan areas would be welcomed by members of all political parties on Merseyside County Council and by

us as professional officers. The only stipulation would be that that inquiry should be thorough, fair, competent and independent. It should, above all, consider the interests of the only people who really matter - the people of Merseyside.

Ask questions about that community and one of the first questions it should face is whether there really is an entity, a community, called Sefton. If not, and I believe that to be the case, a new set of questions needs to be asked and answered about what is wasteful and what is unnecessary.

Yours faithfully,
R. F. O'BRIEN, Chief Executive,
Merseyside County Council,
PO Box 95,
Metropolitan House,
Old Hall Street,
Liverpool.
September 29.

From Mr W. A. Wiseman
Sir, I had the privilege to be the last Mayor of Bootle before that town disappeared in local government terms in the reorganisation of 1974. But the actual place that is Bootle and the community spirit will never disappear, which is more than I would say for Sefton district council, whose leader expressed in your columns (September 27) a totally unsupported bid to take over services now exercised by Merseyside County Council. Sefton has no base and hence that bid has no base.

Bootle is part of Sefton, but there would be much satisfaction locally if Bootle could revert to determining itself those of its affairs which can be provided and funded at a genuinely local level. Including as it does, for politically fraudulent reasons, towns as varied as Bootle and Southport. Sefton fails a definition test of the words "local" and "district".

Beyond the local scale we see nothing wrong, and much to the good, with the services provided by Merseyside County Council. They represent far greater value for money than we get from Sefton.

I believe that areas of government are best related to established communities. Nobody can tell me that Bootle and Merseyside do not fit this bill and a new Bootle council as part of a County Council of Merseyside would command much support.

I am sure there are many other parallels to be drawn across the country where the last round of reorganisation got it wrong. The community element is one which I think should be urgently introduced into the stupidly hurried debate about local government structures.

Yours faithfully,
W. A. WISEMAN,
6 Fernhill Gardens,
Bootle, Merseyside.
September 29.

Political funds

From Lord Underhill

Sir, Mr Michael Ivens, the Director of Arms of Industry, in his article of September 28, overlooks important legal provisions regarding the payment of the political levy and also justifies what is a travesty of democracy.

Before a trade union is allowed by law to engage in political activity there has to be a ballot of its members on the establishment of political objects with payments being made from a separate political fund. Before that is effected, rules for the political fund must be drawn up and approved by the certification officer. Payments in respect of political activities may be made only from the political fund of the trade union.

So there are already tight legal controls on a union's political activity. But these relate solely to the establishment of a political fund. After following these legal constraints a union may decide to affiliate to a political party - up to now such affiliation has been to the Labour Party.

A Yorkshire plea

From Mr Herbert Butler

Sir, If a Yorkshireman (Mr Bryson, September 30) is concerned about "Humbly Grove" you can imagine what a Lancastrian feels about "Merseyside" and "Greater Manchester".

Maybe a rose by any other name would smell as sweet, but the red rose county stems from Henry II in 1168 and of all counties "time-honoured Lancaster" has more self-respect than to submit to a bunch of 1974 bureaucrats tampering with over 800 years of history.

Yours faithfully,
HERBERT BUTLER,
24 Lawrie Park Avenue,
Sydenham, SE26.
September 30.

necessary to ask again, why there has been no request to produce savings in administration at the Department of Health?

Why is the general practitioner service to be abolished from making savings? It is the latter, not the hospital service, which is responsible for the overspending and is the main reason for the present exercise. Surely the first priority for staff cuts must be in administration - non-medical, medical and nursing.

A target has been set for hospital staff, so why not a similar one for central and regional administration? More than £450m is spent on central administration and I would have thought it would be no hardship to reduce this by £50m.

More than £1,000m per annum is spent by the general practitioners on drugs and again I would have thought it would not be difficult to reduce this by at least £50m. Is it not therefore disgraceful that hospitals have strict cash limits, but this does not apply to the general practitioner service?

Portneirion hotel

From Professor Gerald Dix

Sir, On September 27 you reported that two years after it was destroyed by fire it has been decided to rebuild the hotel at Portneirion, where Noel Coward wrote his play *Blythe Spirit* (sic).

This statement is rather misleading. The hotel at Portneirion, which has continued its operation in a modified way since the fire of June, 1981, consisted of a central building and a number of cottages. It was in one of those cottages, the Watch House, that Coward wrote *Blythe Spirit*, between one Saturday and the next. That cottage, like all the others, was undamaged and quite unaffected by the fire.

The former main building was badly damaged by the fire and has since suffered from the weather, but it was by no means "destroyed" and has for some time been re-roofed and protected from the elements. It will be good to see it in use again, as a constituent part of the village that was Sir Clough Williams-Ellis's main concern.

Yours truly,
GERALD DIX,
University of Liverpool,
Department of Civic Design,
Abercromby Square,
Liverpool.
September 29.

Lost for words

From Mr D. B. Walters

Sir, "Try to draft an unbarred entail" used to be a standard land law problem. You cannot do it.

It would indeed be unfortunate if, in rejecting *herilage* (a perfectly good law term in Scots and French for landed property and its associated rights), another technical legal expression were to be adopted, the outstanding characteristic of which is the ease with which it can be barred (broken) by the least family-minded of those who become entitled to it.

Yours etc.
D. B. WALTERS,
1 Cambridge Street,
Edinburgh.
October 1.

It is clear that £100m could be saved from these two sources, and no patient would suffer as a result. By all means reduce over-manning of the hospital ancillary service: in large part this has already been achieved. It is utter madness to ask district hospital authorities to reduce by an arbitrary figure the numbers of doctors, nurses, radiographers, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, pharmacists, medical secretaries when the departments in which they work are often under-staffed.

District health authorities are now engaged in an Alice in Wonderland exercise to reduce staffing numbers by an arbitrary figure. It is inevitable that the result of their deliberations will be a reduction in service to patients in some parts of the country. However, it is most unlikely that the emergency services will be affected.

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL H. HARRIS,
72 Harley Street, W1.

Catholic doubt on teacher training

From the Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle

Sir, Sir Keith Joseph's decision (*The Times*, October 4) to end teacher training in De La Salle College of Education at Middleton, Manchester, raises at least two vital questions for the Roman Catholic community.

The first is whether we still have firm governmental support in providing Catholic teachers for Catholic schools. The Education Secretary's decision has reduced our proportion of national teacher training from the historic share of 9.5 per cent to an actual share of 8.5 per cent. Moreover, it has also reduced the North-west, with 34 per cent of our Catholic schools, to only 20 per cent of our Catholic teacher-training places. The North as a whole will have 50 per cent of our Catholic schools, but only 39 per cent of our Catholic teacher-training places.

Sir Keith has listed the changing circumstances which have led him to disregard our historic share. He does not say what, in future, will be the basis for deciding how many of our colleges will remain in business. Until he has agreed a new and firm basis for teacher-training allocation with our national representatives the future of Catholic teacher training will not be secure.

This raises the second important question of whether our national representatives will be adequately consulted before future decisions are taken. Initially, there was no adequate previous consultation about De La Salle College. After serious representations from the Catholic Bishops' Conference and the Governors, the original closure decision was reviewed.

The department has clearly considered all the points made from the very beginning before making this present final decision to close. However, in my view, the Secretary of State's freedom of choice was considerably restricted because the decisions about the future of all the other colleges had already been taken, and the new Chancellor of the Exchequer had announced further financial cuts.

Until we can be sure that our national representatives will always be consulted by the Department of Education and Science before future decisions are taken about teacher training our colleges will not have a sufficiently secure basis for their future work.

Yours sincerely,
THOMAS LINDSAY,
Bishop of Hexham,
East Denton Hall,
800 West Road,
Newcastle upon Tyne.
October 4.

Portneirion hotel

From Professor Gerald Dix

Sir, On September 27 you reported that two years after it was destroyed by fire it has been decided to rebuild the hotel at Portneirion, where Noel Coward wrote his play *Blythe Spirit* (sic).

This statement is rather misleading. The hotel at Portneirion, which has continued its operation in a modified way since the fire of June, 1981, consisted of a central building and a number of cottages. It was in one of those cottages, the Watch House, that Coward wrote *Blythe Spirit*, between one Saturday and the next. That cottage, like all the others, was undamaged and quite unaffected by the fire.

The former main building was badly damaged by the fire and has since suffered from the weather, but it was by no means "destroyed" and has for some time been re-roofed and protected from the elements. It will be good to see it in use again, as a constituent part of the village that was Sir Clough Williams-Ellis's main concern.

Yours truly,
GERALD DIX,
University of Liverpool,
Department of Civic Design,
Abercromby Square,
Liverpool.
September 29.

Cenotaph ceremony

From Captain Eric Lowden

Sir, Some years ago I had the privilege of laying a wreath on behalf of the Merchant Air Service. When the procession of wreath-bearers formed up inside the Home Office my colleague from the Merchant Navy and I fell in at the tail end, together with the chiefs of the Navy, Army and Air Force.

One of these very senior, very distinguished, officers was heard to comment, to no one in particular: "Funny how the people who did the actual fighting are left to the last."

I suspect that Mr Peter Fletcher's letter (October 3) will arouse a sympathetic response amongst many ex-servicemen of all ranks - even the most senior.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC LOWDEN,
42 Burke's Road,
Beaconsfield,
Buckinghamshire.
October 3.

Tangled roots

From Mrs R. Daniel

Sir, Speaking on *The World at One* (Radio 4) in reply to Sir John Hoskyns's attack on our nation's leaders, Sir John Nott said: "A country has its mainspring from its grassroots."

This statement was a great reassurance to those of us who had suspected that politicians do not always know what they are talking about.

Yours faithfully,
ANGELA DANIEL,
The Willows,
Willow Vale,
Frome,
Somerset.
October 3.

Investment and Finance

City Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Office
200 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8EZ
Telephone 01-537 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 711.4 up 3.6
FT 100: 82.07 up 0.04
FT All Share: 445.28 up 1.35
Bargains: 20.432
Datastream USM Leaders
Index: 98.17 down 0.17
New York: Dow Jones
Average: (latest) 1,257.42
up 7.22
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
Index: 9,529.97 up 38.04
Hong Kong: Hang Seng
Index: 700.92 down 16.76
Amsterdam: 149.2 unchanged
Sydney: AO Index 702.9 up 0.9
Frankfurt: Commerzbank
Index: 961.90 up 10.60
Brussels: General Index
129.59 down 0.28
Paris: CAC Index 139.8 up 0.8
Zurich: SBA General 286.2 unchanged

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.4925 up 60pts
Index 82.8 up 0.2
DM 3.85 down 0.0175
FF 11.8175 up 0.0075
Yen 347.00 down 0.4
Dollar
Index 125.7 down 0.4
DM 2.5805
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.4925
Dollar DM 2.5752
INTERNATIONAL
ECU: 583.626
SDR: 714.688

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates
Bank base rate 9
Finance houses base rate 10
Discount market loans week fixed 9
3 month interbank 9 1/8-9 1/4
Euro-currency rates
3 month dollar 9 1/8-9 1/4
3 month DM 5 1/4-5 1/2
3 month FF 15 1/4-15 1/2
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9 1/4
Treasury long bond 10 1/2-10 3/4
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period September 7, to
October 4, 1983 inclusive:
9.719 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce)
S937.25 p.m. \$394
close \$395.50-392.75 (\$284.75)
New York latest: \$396.80
Kruggerand (per coin):
\$407.408.5 (\$272.50-273.50)
Sovereigns (new):
\$83.94 (\$82.25-83)
*Excludes VAT

TODAY

Interim: Barclay, Debenhams, Downhills Holdings, Manchester Group, Lyle Shipping, F. Miller, North British Canadian Investment, Tuffin Corp., C. and W. Walker Holdings.
Finals: Courtney Pope, Insurance Corp. of Ireland, Sanderson, Murray and Elder.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

AAH Holdings, Cavendish Hotel, Jermyn Street, St James's, SW1 (noon)
Aerospace Engineering, Lord Daresbury Hotel, Warrington (noon)
Armstrong & Rhodes, Calder Vale Mills, Ravenshorpe, Dewsbury (2.00)
Amalgamated Distillers Products, Savoy Hotel, Strand, WC2 (noon)
Black (Peter), Winchester House, Old Broad Street, EC2 (12.30)
English Association Group, Satter's Hall, Fore Street, EC2 (12.30)
Fleming Enterprises Investment Trust, P&O Building, Leadenhall Street, EC3 (10.30)
Fleetline Group, 54 Baker Street, W1 (11.30)
Textured Jersey, Engineers Way, Wembley (noon)

NOTEBOOK

Mitchell Cotts, the international trading, transportation and engineering group, has reported a downturn in pre-tax profits from £9.7m to £7.3m for the year to June 30. The group said that profits from the South African and Australian businesses were the main causes of the decline.
Investors' Notebook, Page 18

● Crystalline is expected to publish the offer document supporting its £20m contested bid for Royal Worcester, the makers of Spode fine china, today. It is expected to include a profit forecast of more than £3m.
● Mr George Younger, Scottish Secretary, met Mr Robert Haslam, chairman of the British Steel Corporation, yesterday to discuss the proposed joint venture deal with US steel. Mr Younger said any deal would need government approval.

Restrictions on foreign ownership of firms will stay

Stock Exchange to ease curbs on overseas trading and commission

By Wayne Lintott

The Stock Exchange is likely to loosen the rules governing commissions and trading in overseas securities as the first step in restructuring its trading practices, Sir Nicholas Goodson, chairman, said yesterday. The deregulation would allow brokers to compete freely in the trade for overseas stocks and would let them charge what they considered competitive, he said. He also confirmed the Stock Exchange Council's opposition to any change in the rules governing foreign ownership of British stockbrokers. Overseas interests may buy only 29.9 per cent of a single member company. They may not act in concert to own totally a brokers but can own 29.9 per cent of several brokers at once. Sir Nicholas explained that by avoiding the court action over restrictive practices advocated by the Office of Fair

Trading, the regulatory authorities of the securities industry could better control the pace and extent of the proposed structural changes - rather than the uncontrolled changes that would have taken place under other systems. The government authorities felt the same. "Sir Nicholas said. He was referring to the deal worked out in July whereby a planned court case by the OFT was dropped by the Government if the Stock Exchange introduced voluntary changes to its structure and working practices. A general vote by the Exchange's 4,000 members will take place on Tuesday and opposition to the proposed changes is mounting within the membership. A 75 per cent majority is needed for change. Sir Nicholas gave a warning that if members voted against the Council's proposals, the Government would have to



Goodson: urging members to support changes

allow the court case to go ahead. The Stock Exchange Council has so far spent £1m advocating that it should be allowed to manage its own affairs. The Stock Exchange agreed with the Government that new proposals should be introduced in one go, rather than being phased in.

But many members are opposed to such a proposal, fearing that it will benefit the larger firms in preference to medium and smaller ones. Sir Nicholas said that he and the Government "were well aware" of the risks involved to the Stock Exchange if members voted against the resolutions and if trading practices were then placed before the courts. Many of the larger brokers are concerned that, once fixed commissions are phased out, single capacity trading would soon break down and that strains would be placed on the compensation fund - which guarantees the debts of members that may become insolvent. Smaller companies argue that the bigger groups already monopolize institutional trading and new issues and that if fixed commissions are dismantled all at once then those practices will become even more concentrated in fewer hands.

French Dunlop put into receivership

By Derek Pair

Dunlop Holdings, the troubled tyre-making group, has severed its loss-making French connection. Yesterday it reported that Dunlop SA, which has about 10 per cent of the French tyre market and employs 6,000, has gone into receivership. This comes two weeks after Dunlop announced the controversial £82m sale of the bulk of its British tyre operations to Sumitomo, the Japanese group. Dunlop's French business, with five factories, has been deep in the red for more than five years. Losses since 1977 were £60m and in the first nine months of this year a further £18m was lost.

"The financial position of Dunlop SA has weakened to the extent of requiring additional permanent capital to enable it to continue to trade," Dunlop said. "As the sale of Dunlop SA's trading losses is not abating, the parent company is not prepared to provide any additional capital to Dunlop SA." Dunlop applied to the commercial court at Nanterre to have its French business put into receivership. Its application was approved and a syndic, a state official, was appointed. Under French law, a syndic is charged with the responsibility of trying to continue, sell or restructure the business. Dunlop has apparently tried to sell its French side to other tyre-makers. But with losses piling up, there were no takers. The French Government has, apparently, turned a deaf ear to any pleas from the British group. Just how much Dunlop will be forced to write off because of the French collapse is not clear. But the group will have the

Fraser: losses in France reach £78m

satisfaction of immediately

stemming its trading losses

from this source.

The receivership also means

that it will not be responsible

for redundancy payments to its

French workforce.

When Sir Campbell Fraser,

Dunlop's chairman, announced

the sale to the Japanese last

month, he said that the future of

the five French factories was

under "active consideration".

Dunlop SA was excluded from

the Sumitomo sale because,

many observers believe, the

Japanese group was not pre-

pared to shoulder the losses

being incurred. But Sumitomo

is acquiring much of the rest of

the Dunlop tyre business in this

country and on the Continent.

The Dunlop-Sumitomo deal

is still subject to final contract.

It is already running into

fierce trade union and some

shareholder resistance - it will

be phased over the 15 months

to end-1984.

It is thought that the sale to

Sumitomo met with the full

approval of Dunlop's Malaysian

shareholders.

Dow up in active trading

New York (AP-Dow Jones). - On the New York Stock Exchange yesterday, shares paused after a sharp initial rise. The Dow Jones Industrial average was about three points up at 1,253, after slipping from a gain of more than five points. The Transportation Index was up by more than three points to 581. Advances were 2-to-1 ahead of declines and trading was active.

International Business Machines was up 1/4 at 131 1/4.

WALL STREET

General Motors up 1/4 to 75 1/4, General Electric was off 1/4 to 55 1/4, March down 1/4 at 99 1/4, Minnesota Mining up 1/4 to 86 1/4, Exxon unchanged at 36 1/4, Digital Equipment up 1/4 to 103 1/4, UAL up 1/4 at 30 1/4, AMR up 1/4 to 30 1/4 and Teledyne down 1/4 to 164 1/4. General Dynamics was 55 1/4, Chrysler 35 1/4, Honeywell, 12 1/4, Boeing, 41 1/4.

Australia reassures investors

By Michael Priest

Australia's Labour Government set out yesterday to reassure actual and potential foreign investors when Mr Paul Keating, the Treasurer, denied that major changes in foreign investment policy were contemplated. He said that an improvement in the economy was likely in 1983/4. Speaking at a lunch given by the Australia and New Zealand

Trade Advisory Committee, Mr Keating said: "The prospects for a sustainable economic recovery in Australia are better than for some time." He forecast that gross domestic product would grow by 6 per cent in the fiscal year 1983/4, compared with a contraction of 2 per cent in the previous fiscal year. Inflation would fall to 7.5 per cent, he said.

Telecommunications group sets up in Britain

System X faces Canadian threat

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

Northern Telecom, the Canadian telecommunications company, is to establish a major manufacturing and research presence in Britain. It plans to win some of British Telecom's orders for public telephone exchanges from established British suppliers. Mr Walter Light, chief executive of Northern Telecom, said in London yesterday that the company would recruit about 220 people, mainly highly skilled engineers, within a year. Mr Light will work at Hemel Hempstead, the Hertfordshire manufacturing and product-development centre, but 70 will be employed at a new research laboratory near Maidenhead, Kent. The immediate capital investment will be about £6m. Mr Light said that he expected sales to reach £200m a year, with the British workforce up to 2,500 by 1988. But he said that level of growth would depend on the company's selling public telephone exchanges on a significant scale to British Telecom. The market is now dominated by GEC, Plessey and Standard Telephones and Cables. A British subsidiary is being set up as the vehicle for the company's expansion. Its establishment, Mr Light said, was prompted directly by the government's "liberalization" policy, opening the telecommunications market to new suppliers. Northern Telecom intends, in

a plan that will be most provocative to the established British manufacturers, to try to sell its large DMS switches as an alternative to System X, the digital exchange made by GEC and Plessey, on which British Telecom is relying to take its telephone network into the next century. Mr Light said that Northern Telecom had not yet made an approach to British Telecom. The company had also not received any financial assistance or other commitments from the Government. Northern Telecom already has a licensing agreement with GEC under which the British company manufactures and sells a version of its SL-1 private exchange

Successful launch for Spurs

By Michael Clark

Lists for shares in Tottenham Hotspur Football Club and Acorn Computers both closed oversubscribed yesterday. Tottenham, which set out to become Britain's first fully quoted soccer league side, was offering fans and investors a total of 3.8 million shares at 100p each - help-wipe out debts of over £3m. Over £15m was ploughed into the issue by the City and football fans alike, making the issue 4 1/2 times oversubscribed. The shares are expected to start trading between 1.5p and 20p higher when dealings start next Thursday.

If Tottenham is given a warm reception by the market it might be the signal for several other league clubs to follow suit. Queens Park Rangers, Tottenham's west London neighbour, is considering joining the Unlisted Securities Market and Arsenal is also thought to be considering a similar move. Meanwhile, Acorn Computers is set to become the biggest company quoted on the USM with its offer of 11.23 million shares at a minimum tender price of 120p.

Swire shares flout Hongkong trend

By John Lawless

Swire Pacific emerged yesterday as one Hongkong share which was rising against the trend. It surfaced from among leading Hongkong shares which recorded small losses - as the Hang Seng Index drifted down 16.76 to end at 700.92 - as the only one which posted a gain. Analysts in London warned against reading too much into the 10 cents rise in Swire Pacific A shares, which took them to HK\$11.50. But they admitted that there are plenty of investors who are tempted to buy but too nervous to do so. "There is no logic to what is happening on the Hongkong market at the moment," one said. "But if you look at the business facts, Swire Pacific is a quality share in the bargain basement." The reasons are obvious: the diversified group owns Cathay Pacific, an expanding airline which doubled its profits in the last half-year, reported in September - and which is

Parkinson overrules OFT on Dalgety

By Jeremy Warner

Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, yesterday overturned the recommendation of the Director General of Fair Trading and allowed Dalgety's proposed £42m purchase of the agricultural services division of Ranks Hovis McDougall to go ahead. The Director General, Sir Gordon Borrie, had recommended that the deal be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Mr Parkinson's decision appears to fly in the face of his statement in June that he would as far as possible follow Sir Gordon's advice in mergers policy. The statement followed a series of controversial decisions made by Mr Parkinson's predecessor, Lord Cockfield.

Insolvency reform on way

The Department of Trade and Industry confirmed yesterday that a White Paper on insolvency law reform is to be published in the New Year. Legislation is expected to follow in 1984-85.

Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Trade and Industry Secretary, has told Sir Kenneth Cork that the Government intends to act on the Cork Committee's findings which it has been considering since last year.

Telecom wants debts written off

By Jonathan Davis
Financial Correspondent

British Telecom's capital structure will be a vital factor in the success of failure of the corporation's flotation on the stock market next year, Sir George Jefferson, the chairman, said yesterday. Speaking at a London Press Club lunch, Sir George said he would be pressing for a favourable settlement of the corporation's balance sheet problems in negotiations with the Government about the form in which British Telecom starts life as a private sector company. "I want to have a capital structure that enables us to look like an attractive stock in the market place, not a second class gilt," he said. Only in this way would British Telecom be able to raise sufficient capital to fund the heavy investment programme needed to expand and modernize Britain's telecommunications network in the next decade. Other key factors that would determine the success of the record £4,000m flotation, Sir George said, were the terms of British Telecom's operating



Jefferson: capital structure a vital factor

licence and the regulatory framework established by the Government. All three factors are expected to be debated fiercely in the coming weeks when the Government pushes its reintroduced telecommunications bill through parliament. The original privatization legislation was lost when the General Election was called earlier last year.

Sir George expressed concern that pressure group influence could lead to amendments which might damage the corporation's prospects. "The Government could finish up in its efforts to satisfy every pressure group with a licence, regulatory framework and capital structure that does not create an environment in which British Telecom can be a viable and attractive beast," he said. The chairman's words confirm that the corporation is keen to come to the stock market with a rating more akin to that of a glamour technology stock than a dull public utility. In its negotiations with ministers at the Department of Industry, British Telecom is pressing for the Government to write off much of its debt and also wants to be rid of a £1300m pension fund liability dating back to its incorporation. Referring to a campaign against privatization, Sir George said that British Telecom's employees were experiencing a revolutionary rate of change in their business. But it was foolish to resist "Canute-like" the changes that were already happening.

City Editor's Comment

Why the Bank has to be cautious

Yesterday's mild rally in sterling on the foreign exchanges is welcome if not yet totally convincing. It vindicates the Bank of England's smoothing operation after the half-point cut in bank base rates.

Yet the market's unhelpful attitude was a shot across the bows, a warning that dealers will be looking at any British Government action that seems to cast doubt on its anti-inflationary programme and at any changes in interest rates that put us too far out of line with the United States. There, after all, enhanced expectations of inflation next year are still lower than the 7 per cent peak many expect here.

The course of interest rates in the US remains a mystery. Recent US money supply figures will not have caused any alarms, but the stockbroking firm Simon & Coates suggests that the Federal Reserve will pay more attention to the relationship between banks' excess free reserves and their borrowings at the Fed's discount window.

If borrowings are higher on balance, today's 11 per cent prime lending rates are likely to continue.

The latest figures showed net borrowings of \$113m, not suggesting any immediate cause for interest rate cuts across the Atlantic.

The brokers argue that any improvement in prospects for the expected US budget deficit are marginal. On that basis, a half-point cut in American interest rates may be the best hope for the autumn.

This would not leave the Bank of England much room to manoeuvre, and it helps to explain the bank's desire to dampen expectations of further quick cuts here.

Overhanging the whole process is the presumption that the dollar will have to come down sooner or later to reflect trade realities as

the presidential election looms. On past behaviour, the dollar will then drag the pound down relative to third currencies. That would be the time when we would really be in danger of importing inflation via commodity prices.

Uncertainty on mergers

On the face of it, Mr Cecil Parkinson has again recked the merger boat by rejecting the recommendation of the director general of Fair Trading that the takeover by Dalgety of Ranks Hovis McDougall's animal feed business should be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

No sooner had the new trade team taken over than they let it be known that they would avoid the cavalier treatment of merger decisions by the director general and the commission itself which had characterized the reign of their predecessors.

Within days, it seemed, Mr Parkinson moved to quash the director general's action against the Restrictive Trade Practices Act. So the new good intentions were repeated. Now another of the director general's decisions has gone by the board.

It would be silly to make too much of this. The Dalgety deal was by no means an open and shut case for referral. It doubled Dalgety's market share to 16 per cent but there are still plenty of small companies in the business and the barriers to entry are not, it seems, insurmountable.

It might be a good idea for the commission to look at this whole market, but had both the director general and the Secretary of State let the deal through on the nod, few eyebrows would have been raised.

But Mr Parkinson rightly reacted to disquiet over uncertainty over merger policy.

His aim is right. But the exceptions from his self-imposed regimen add to the uncertainty.

HOLT LLOYD
International plc

Interim Profits Double

	28 weeks ending 10.9.83 £000	28 weeks ending 11.9.82 £000	Year to 26.2.83 £000
Group external sales	28,701	26,889	52,872
Trading profits	2,533	1,497	2,871
Pre-tax profits	2,176	1,067	2,061
Earnings per share	3.3p	0.6p	1.1p
Interim dividend	1.5p	1.5p	3.17p

Summary of Chairman's Statement

- Pre-tax profits increase 104%.
- U.K. Division shows marked recovery.
- Overseas sales 12% up.
- Progress expected to continue.

Holt Lloyd International plc, Lloyds House, Alderley Road, Wilmshurst, Cheshire SK9 1QT

WATMOUGHS (HOLDINGS) PLC

Interim results for the six months to 30 June 1983

PROFIT BEFORE TAX UP 10%
£748,000 (1982 £680,000)

GROUP TURNOVER UP 6%
£10,203 million (1982 £9,637 million)

INTERIM DIVIDEND 1.7p PER SHARE
Rate maintained on share capital increased by 1 for 5 scrip issue

New contracts being developed. Higher volume obtained in mail order printing, magazine production and security printing. Progress achieved in carton manufacturing.

Interim report available from the Secretary, Idie, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD10 8NL



CANADIAN OVERSEAS PACKAGING INDUSTRIES LIMITED

(Incorporated in Canada)

PRELIMINARY EARNINGS ANNOUNCEMENT

Audited results for the year to 30th June, 1983

(All funds expressed in Canadian Dollars)

	1982/83	1981/82
Earnings before Taxation	20,120,622	19,766,410
Taxation	4,866,439	4,180,010
Earnings after Taxation	15,254,183	15,586,400
Less: Minority Interests	176,669	169,736
	15,077,514	15,416,664
Add: Gain on sale of Investments	405,845	481,222
	15,483,359	15,897,886
Extraordinary Item (See paragraph no. 2)	1,035,000	-
	14,448,359	15,897,886
Dividend Provision	5,097,656	4,570,312
	C\$ 9,351,703	C\$ 11,327,574

- The Directors today declared a dividend on the 17,578,125 Common Shares N.P.V., payable to Shareholders registered at the close of business on 18th November 1983 at the rate of 29 cents (Canadian currency) per share. The comparative figure for 1982 was 28 cents per share. The dividend payment date is 18th December 1983.
- Under Extraordinary Item a provision has been made in full for a potential write-down which has arisen in Trinidad since the financial year end. The Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 30th June, 1983, together with the Notice of the Twenty-second Annual Meeting will be posted to Shareholders on the 27th October, 1983 with the usual press announcements appearing the same day. The Twenty-second Annual Meeting will be held on 28th November, 1983. Full details will be circulated with the Notice of the Meeting.

By Order of the Board, M. C. Johnston, O.C., Director and Secretary
6th October 1983
P.O. Box 7288, Postal Station 'X',
Saint John, New Brunswick, CANADA E2L 4S6.

Friedland Daggart Group PLC

Tender offer by the Company to purchase approximately 15 per cent. of its Ordinary shares at a price between 150p and 200p per share

A tender offer enabling shareholders to tender their shares either directly to the Company ("off-market") or through The Stock Exchange ("on-market") will open today, Friday 7th October, 1983 and close at 3.30 p.m. on Friday, 21st October, 1983. The terms of the tender offer and the action that shareholders should take if they wish to tender some or all of their shares are set out below.

Terms of the tender offer

- Shareholders are invited to tender at a price within the range of a minimum of 150p per share and a maximum of 200p per share inclusive.
- The maximum number of shares for which the Company will accept tenders is 924,807 (approximately 15 per cent. of the present issued Ordinary share capital). Shareholders will be able to tender all or some of their shares, but if more than 924,807 shares are tendered, tenders may be scaled down, balanced or rejected as explained in paragraph (iv) below.
- If tenders representing less than 1 per cent. of the voting rights attached to the Company's Ordinary shares (being 61,248 Ordinary shares) are received the tender offer will be void.
- If the number of shares tendered for sale is more than 924,807, the striking price (being the price that the Company will pay) will be the lowest price at which the number of shares sought (i.e. 924,807) is met and all shareholders who tender at or below the striking price will receive that price (subject to the provisions of paragraph (x) below). If necessary, tenders made at the striking price will be scaled down pro rata or balanced. No tenders above the striking price will be accepted.
- If the number of shares tendered for sale is less than 924,807, tendering shareholders will receive the maximum price of 200p per share.
- All tenders lodged by shareholders or by their agents will be irrevocable.
- It will be open to shareholders to tender a proportion of their shares on-market and a proportion off-market.
- The tender offer will open on 7th October, 1983, and will close at 3.30 p.m. on 21st October, 1983. The on-market tender will be conducted by The Stock Exchange and the off-market tender will be conducted by a representative of the Company. Upon closing, dealings in the Company's shares will be temporarily suspended, the results of both tenders will be amalgamated and a common striking price will be determined by The Stock Exchange and the representative of the Company by reference to both on- and off-market tenders. The decisions of The Stock Exchange and the Company's representative as to the striking price and as to which shares have been successfully tendered shall be conclusive and binding on all shareholders whether they have tendered on- or off-market.
- At 9.30 a.m. on the first business day following the determination by The Stock Exchange and the representative of the Company as to which shares have been successfully tendered at or below the striking price, dealings in the Company's shares will resume and sales will be effected through The Stock Exchange of those shares which have been successfully tendered on-market. It is emphasized that the terms of such on-market sales may in no circumstances be subsequently varied: nor will such sales or the settlement thereof be conditional on the approval of off-market purchase contracts.
- Sales resulting from successful on-market tenders will be for normal Stock Exchange Account Settlement on 7th November, 1983, being the settlement day for the Account ending on 28th October, 1983. Shareholders who have successfully tendered on-market will therefore receive their proceeds of sale (less normal dealing expenses) through their stockbroker or other agent in the usual way once they have provided a valid share certificate and signed the appropriate transfer form. The normal Stock Exchange rules for Account Settlement will apply and buying-in may therefore take place in the event of late delivery of shares.
- Successful off-market tenders will be subject to specific approval by shareholders in Extraordinary General Meeting to be held on 21st November, 1983. Upon such approval being obtained the proceeds of sale will be paid on 23rd November, 1983 to those shareholders who have successfully tendered off-market and provided a valid share certificate.

Timeline

The taxation consequences for shareholders depend upon the method which they employ to tender their shares as well as on their own circumstances. All shareholders are strongly recommended to consult their professional advisers before tendering their shares.

On-market tenders

Shareholders who wish to tender all or part of their shares through The Stock Exchange should instruct their stockbroker, bank manager or other professional adviser accordingly, indicating the number of shares to be tendered and the price or prices at which such shares should be tendered. Sales resulting from successful tenders of shares on-market will be subject to normal Stock Exchange sale commissions, expenses and procedures for settlement. Shareholders should not use the off-market form of tender for tendering shares on-market.

Off-market tenders

A form of tender for those shareholders who wish to tender all or part of their shares off-market is available from the Company's Registrars, Ravensbourne Registration Services Ltd., 145 Leadenhall Street, London EC3 4QT; it contains instructions for lodgement which should be read carefully.

Closing date

The tender offer will close at 3.30 p.m. on Friday, 21st October, 1983. It is expected that an announcement of the results of the tender offer will be made by 9.30 a.m. on Monday, 24th October, 1983.

7th October, 1983

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Michael Prest

Pioneer policy to protect investors

While London's commodity markets - not helped by the London Metal Exchange's unilateral declaration of independence - struggle to contrive investor protection schemes able to ward off demands for statutory regulation, a small investment management firm has produced the first comprehensive investor insurance policy.

Broad Court Investment Management, which started trading at the end of last year, has only 120 clients and looks after about £500,000. But its plan could point the way for the industry as a whole, and certainly should be applicable to any reputable fund manager.

The Broad Court plan insures all clients of its syndicate against the failure of either itself or brokers employed by Broad Court to repay any monies owned is unpaid.

The policy is offered by Lowndes Lambert, one of the country's biggest insurance brokers, and covers the investment in the syndicate at the last valuation date, plus 10 per cent of that amount, all funds deposited with the broker and/or the manager, and all interest accrued on such deposits.

For this the investor pays a premium of 1 per cent a year of the value of his holding in the Broad Court syndicate. In practice, the client pays each month 1/10 per cent of the value of his holding at the last valuation date. Broad Court has already paid the initial year's premium, so the investor is

fully insured from the moment of joining the syndicate. The advantages of this scheme over segregated funds or trust funds is that no recourse to the courts should be necessary. In both the former cases the legal position is largely untested.

There is no obvious reason why other commodity investment firms should not offer similar services. Or perhaps the prospective Futures Brokers' Association - if it ever materializes - would consider an insurance plan for the entire industry?

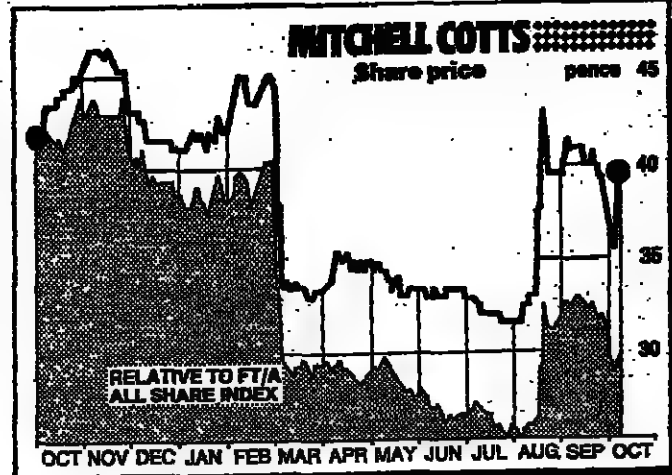
Mitchell Cotts

Mitchell Cotts
Year to 30.6.83
Pretax profit £7.3m (£9.7m)
Stated earnings 4.49p (4.40p)
Turnover £405m (£387m)
Net final dividend 2.12p making 3.52p (same)
Share price 39.5p
Dividend payable 7.11.83

A sharp downturn in South African and Australian operations has dented the 1983 results from Mitchell Cotts. The group's year to June 30 from the international trading, transportation and engineering group show that pretax profits have fallen from £9.7m in 1982 to £7.3m.

The profits contribution from South Africa fell from £8.3m a year ago to £3.5m, while the Americas and Australasia were down from a tiny contribution of £2,000 to a loss of £304,000.

The problem in these areas largely came from recession in



local economies, although the drought in South Africa has also affected mining and contracting areas.

The group's European operations are faring well and helping to counter problems elsewhere. Profits from the British contract haulage, specialist chemicals and engineering business have held up strongly, rising from £4.2m to £5.9m.

More than 60 per cent of group profits now come from Europe. The shift in emphasis will continue into the current year as the group lessens its exposure in South Africa and the rest of Africa.

The British operations in particular will be expanded to take advantage of a corporation tax position which means that up to 29m of profits can be earned in Britain tax-free.

Mitchell Cotts is aiming for a

repeat of 1982 group pretax profits of £9.7m this year and is on course for British profits of £9m in two years. At 39.5p the shares are well off their peak of 46.5p for the past year and offer a strong yield of 13.09 per cent. They sell on a price/earnings ratio of 8.1.

Austin Reed

AUSTIN REED
26 weeks to 13.8.83
Pretax profit £1.1m (£830,000)
Stated earnings 3.9p (3.1p)
Turnover £17.4m (£15.4m)
Net interim dividend 1.5p (1p)
Share price 153p, unchanged.

Austin Reed is the second retailer this week to show that the boom in consumer spending is at last feeding through to the clothes shops rather than staying with the durable goods stores.

Spear & Jackson recovers

By Jeremy Warner

A programme of cost reductions has succeeded in returning the garden tool manufacturer Spear & Jackson International to profit. In the first half of the year the group made pretax profits of £387,000 against losses over the comparable period of £854,000. At least as good and possibly a lot better is expected for the second half. Last year the group lost £1.8m before tax.

But for the cost of launching new products, first half profits would have been almost double. The group has launched a range

Spear & Jackson International
Half-year to 2.7.83
Pretax profit £387,000 (loss £854,000)
Stated earnings 4p (loss 16.7p)
Turnover £16.5m (£15.5m)
Net interim dividend 1.75p (1p)
Share price 108 1/2 p.

of Swedish lawn mowers and a new lawn fertiliser under the 'Flourish' brand name.

Mr Leonard Grosbard, managing director, believes fertilisers could emerge as the group's most important source of profits. The results, he said,

could mark the beginning of a long period of growth for the company.

Borrowings have been reduced from £2.8m to £2.1m, lowering gearing from 30 per cent to 22 per cent. Sales per employee are up 22.7 per cent while payroll costs have come down from 33.6 per cent of sales to 30.9 per cent.

The UK cutting tools division was the major problem in 1982 but it returned to break-even during the second quarter. The French cutting tools company is just breaking even.

Eaton may expand further in Europe

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

Eaton Corporation, the American vehicle components and electronics company, whose cash reserves are expected to reach \$500m (£335m) within five years, may make acquisitions in Europe, according to Mr E M "Dee" De Windt, chairman and chief executive.

"We have not precluded acquisition in Europe, even in the electronics sector," he said in London yesterday. Eaton already has plants in Britain and on the Continent. The group has been looking at technology-based companies in Britain with some form of cooperation as the likely basis for making a stake.

With the recession hitting vehicle components, once the biggest part of Eaton's production, the company has been switching more resources into developing engineering systems and electrical and electronic products. Eaton's staff has dropped from a peak 5,000 to about 2,000.

On its involvement in Britain, Mr De Windt said: "We are here to stay. They are major businesses in the UK."

Eaton's Manchester plant, which produces vehicle components and has recently been rebuilt, is operating at 80 per cent of capacity, with much of its production going abroad.

The closing of some of Eaton's American plants has meant that more of the Manchester production now goes to the United States.

Production at its other British vehicle component plant in Basingstoke was likely to increase because of other prospects now opening up, said Mr De Windt.

This is despite the continued world slump in lorry production, although in the past two months there have been signs in the United States that sales could soon begin to improve.

Eaton's takeover of Cotler Hammer, which is involved in electronics, has led to reassessment of the company's product lines at its Bedford plant. Within two years Bedford is expected to be producing a new key product developed in the United States.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES

Rubber in £/c per tonne; Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pence per lb. (See also in US \$ per metric ton)

Grain in US \$ per bushel

Oil in US \$ per barrel

Gold in US \$ per ounce

Silver in US \$ per ounce

Platinum in US \$ per ounce

Palladium in US \$ per ounce

Iron ore in US \$ per tonne

Coal in US \$ per tonne

Wheat in US \$ per bushel

Rice in US \$ per cwt

Soybeans in US \$ per bushel

Maize in US \$ per bushel

Barley in US \$ per bushel

Oats in US \$ per bushel

Peas in US \$ per bushel

Beans in US \$ per bushel

Lentils in US \$ per bushel

Chickpeas in US \$ per bushel

Mustard in US \$ per bushel

Saffron in US \$ per lb

Vanilla in US \$ per lb

Cinnamon in US \$ per lb

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WALL STREET

NYSE LISTED STOCKS

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COMPANY NEWS

IN BRIEF

Tranwood Group
Half-year to 31.7.83
Pretax profit £7,000 (profit £5,000)
Loss per share 0.21p (0.06p)
Turnover £2.4m (£2.5m)

Benlox Holdings
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pretax profit £104,000 (£54,000)
Stated earnings 1.11p (0.81p)
Turnover £4m (£2.2m)
Net interim dividend 0.5p (nil)

Holt Lloyd International
Half-year to 10.9.83
Pretax profit £2.2m (£1.1m)
Stated earnings 3.3p (0.6p)
Turnover £28.7m (£26.9m)
Net interim dividend 1.5p (same)

Bryna Engineering Holdings
Half-year to 31.5.83
Pretax profit £109,000 (£233,000)
Stated earnings 0.76p (1.78p)
Turnover £5.3m (£5m)
Net interim dividend 0.25p (same)

Unigroup
Year to 2.7.83
Pretax profit £53,000 (loss £86,000)
Stated earnings 1.3p (loss 3.04p)
Turnover £4.3m (£4.1m)
Net dividend none

Marketing and advertising: Torin Douglas reports on a rare promotional drive

ITV takes a leaf out of its own book to build up ratings

For a business that sells other people's goods to the public, Independent Television has been strangely reluctant to sell its own goods - its programmes - in a similar fashion. Few ITV companies have advertised their forthcoming productions and even on-air promotions - advertising by another name - have been less polished than those of the BBC.

Now all that is changing. The companies were stung more than they will admit by the drop in audiences a year ago. This autumn ITV has launched its biggest promotional effort yet and already it seems to have the desired effect. Total viewing hours in the first three weeks of the autumn schedule are up and the gains have been made almost entirely by ITV, as the Independent Television Companies Association has been quick to point out.

Mr David Shaw, the association's general secretary, says: "The average viewer has watched ITV for over two hours more than in the same period in 1982."

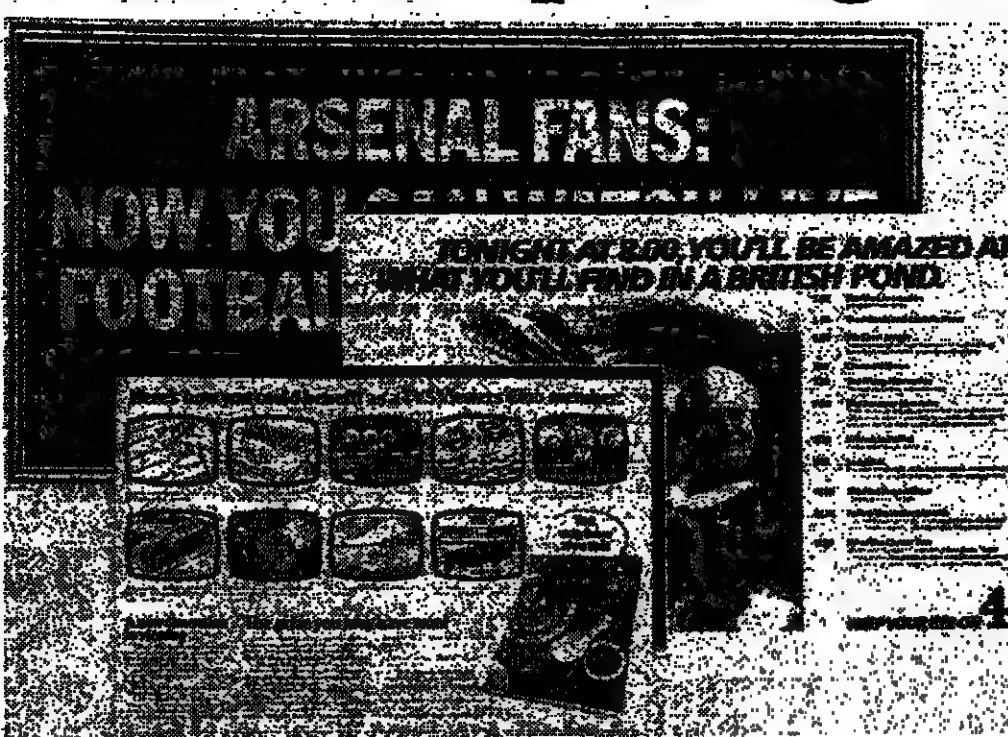
With our share of the audience also remaining buoyant at 56 per cent, these are trends we'll be hoping to maintain in the period to Christmas. The arrival of Channel 4 has certainly played a part. Even the weather may have had an effect. But the figures are hard to ignore.

Spearheading the ITV schedule has been the 16-hour American epic *The Winds of War*, which must have a strong claim to be the most heavily promoted TV programme of all time. On-air promotion ran regularly from mid-summer, culminating in five-minute trailers that were billed in TV Times.

In addition, the two London ITV contractors ran advertising campaigns for the series. Thames using radio and newspapers and London Weekend using radio and posters.

ITV's promotional zeal does not end there, however. This week sees the start of a £1m advertising campaign by Channel 4 which will run for the next six months, using advertisements designed to make people read the programme listings. Next week sees the launch by Television South of a new concept in TV promotion, the TVS Viewer's Club, offering discounts on a variety of goods and services as well as a chance to have a say in programming.

The ITCA is in the process of selecting an agency for a £500,000 image-building and



TV tonic: some of the independent companies' recent advertisements

audience-boosting campaign for ITV and will be choosing three programmes to advertise this autumn. Meanwhile, Thames and London Weekend will continue with their own advertising campaigns, as will some other ITV companies.

Mr Ron Miller, sales director of London Weekend and chairman of the ITCA's promotions sub-committee, says: "A programme is a product and it has to be sold. I'd like to think that our ratings success this autumn has been due to a mixture of strong programming and promotion - the best programme in the world won't work unless it's sold to the viewer."

"We shall be selecting three programmes this autumn on behalf of the ITCA and we shall advertise to the public, either through press, radio or posters. We are becoming more aggressive in our promotion."

London Weekend is stepping

up its own promotional efforts. In addition to the controversial poster campaign, it has been running for two years (one poster showed Mrs Thatcher speaking the Archbishop of Canterbury, another Denis Thatcher in an apron, while last week there were complaints from Arsenal Football Club about a poster saying "Arsenal fans - now you can watch five football this weekend"), the station is running radio commercials and press advertisements for its programmes and has produced a number of animated trailers for its own series, under the slogan "London Weekend - The Entertainers".

The campaign has been much admired within the advertising business and has won several awards, until there is a widespread feeling that it is actually aimed more at advertising men than at the general public. Advertisers have complained for several years that ITV does too little to promote its

programmes and the LWT campaign has been seen as a skilful response to this. Mr John Blakemore, head of broadcast media at the Ogilvy & Mather agency, says: "I am delighted that they are now promoting their programmes more widely. Advertisers will be spending £900m on television this year and we believe we should see some of that money put into promotion."

"Agency investment in promotion does not necessarily mean higher audiences - they must go out and tell the unconverted."

Reaching the unconverted is a particular problem for Channel 4, which with only a 5 per cent share of the audience cannot rely on on-air promotion to build audiences, even when they are also shown on ITV.

Miss Sue Stoeck, Channel 4's head of marketing, says: "We have to bring our programmes to the attention of people who are not watching. ITV or

Channel 4 regularly. That is why we must advertise in the press."

Research by Channel 4 and its advertising agency, Boase Massimi Pollitt, has shown that one of the channel's problems is that people do not read the programme listings to find what is on: the new campaign, which started this week in *The Times* and other papers, is designed to put that right. The first advertisement shows an elegant pair of legs and the headline reads "Was it only Dr. Marvill's degree that got her the job at St. Clair's? Find out at 9.30." The reader has to run his eye down the programme listings, printed in the advertisement, to find out that the programme in question is *The Nanny's Health*.

The TVS Viewer's Club, has a different aim, namely, to encourage viewers to feel closer to the station. Mr Martin Jackson, TVS Controller of public affairs, says: "Television has not felt the need to do this before, but such clubs are part and parcel of the promotional activity of radio stations and newspapers."

"Membership will be free and we hope to get 20,000 members by Christmas and 30,000 by March. Members will receive a club card which will give them discounts on holidays, wine, luggage, restaurants, insurance and other goods. They will get a chance to win the book of our series *The Spice of Life* and to visit the studios and watch programmes being made, as well as taking part in programme research."

TVS is investing £70,000 in the venture, using professional direct response agency, MSW Rapp & Collins, but the aim is for it to make a profit. The club is not a charity, apart from the potential profit, are that it will build up an affinity with its audience, it will provide a regular panel for programme research and that it will give maximum impact to TVS's new afternoon programming.

The most clear-cut case history on the value of promotion is that of the first London Weekend Agatha Christie blockbuster *Why Didn't They Ask Evans?* three years ago.

In London, where the programme was very heavily trailed on the air and advertised on radio, it topped the ratings. In eight other ITV areas, it did not make even the top ten.

That was a one-off programme, which did not have a chance to build an audience, as *The Winds of War* did in some areas.

The secretive Barclays prepare for Ellerman

The brothers David and Frederick Barclay, now set to take over the Ellerman Lines shipping and breweries empire, have a quiet presence even in the hotel trade which they entered some 20 years ago.

With the Ellerman deal still to be finalized on November 15 they are adopting a low profile, shunning public exposure of their company's affairs and business philosophy.

At the offices of their main company, Barclays Hotels, at 2 Hyde Park Place, overlooking the north side of Hyde Park, inquirers get short, if polite, shrift.

Barclays Hotels and its network of subsidiaries last reported as a group on the year to December 1980. Turnover was £3.33m - down from 1979's £4.17m and 1978's £5.27m - with the group's pretax losses standing at £715,246. There had been an accumulated loss at the beginning of 1980 of £1.1m.

But in 1980 the group nevertheless finished up with a bottom-line profit of about £490,000 because of extraordinary items contributing £1.18m. During the year a hotel sale netted £4.4m.

The company's auditors, Cooper and Lybrand, qualified the accounts because they were not satisfied money due from related companies would be recovered in full. Coopers qualified the 1979 accounts for the same reason.

It was during 1979 the Barclays acquired the Mirabeau, a luxury hotel in Monte Carlo which they still operate. In 1980 the brothers sold the London-derry Hotel in London's Old Park Lane, reportedly to Arab interests.

The 1979 accounts show a pretax group loss of £196,400. The year before pretax profits had stood at £142,000, an 83 per cent drop on the 1977 level of £846,000.

The group's losses exposure at the end of 1980 was not great at marginally above £1m. But this had varied over the year as was to be expected in an essentially property dealing business such as hotels.

At the end of 1975 loans had totalled £5.8m, had become repayable and the Barclays were contemplating significant disposals to reduce debts.

Up to 1980 the Barclays had been involved with a number of other London hotels, among them Hyde Park North (sold in 1971) and the Senator (sold in the mid-seventies). The Cadogan and the Lowndes also came within the Barclays orbit.

The notable survivor is the Howard Hotel, the Barclays' flagship in Britain. It is one of London's plushier hotels just off the Thames Embankment near the Aldwych. It opened in 1975.

The brothers, remembered in the hotel world as at one time in estate agency and then property development in the London area, have until now had two main thrusts in their business. For as well as buying, operating and sometimes selling hotels they also launched into catering. They spearheaded this drive by taking a 73 per cent stake in Swiss Fair which runs restaurants and some shops at the Swiss Centre in London's West End.

On the hotels side since 1980 the Barclays have moved on space. Last summer in a £9.25m deal they bought M. F. North,

successfully - to the tune of around £17m - for three of the 21 British Transport Hotels which had been put up for sale by British Rail.

Barclays Hotels in 1979 had some £6m in net tangible assets, including £5.6m in fixed assets. One measure of the challenge the Barclays are facing in taking over loss-making Ellerman is that Ellerman's net tangible assets stand at around £250m, half of them accounted for by fixed assets.

The particular challenge is Ellerman's shipping interests, which last year made a £3.1m loss. Ellerman was also in losses in its travel and leisure division but this is not part of the Barclays deal, an ironical turn of events because that division would have seemed a much more logical extension of the Barclays' interests.

Ellerman's brewing business which is part of the Barclays deal is notably profitable. There is Tollenmache & Cobbold, the East Anglia regional brewers, and J.W. Cameron which trades mainly in the north-east of England. The breweries, with tied pubs, could clearly fit in with the Barclays' drive into the catering and leisure areas.

The question is what the Barclays can make of the Ellerman shipping interests even though others before them notably a construction-based Trafalgar House with Cunard - have shown it is a path which can be trod with some success.

The Barclays have made clear they will continue with the shipping business which includes the operation of 16 ships.

On this aspect a Barclays spokesman - predictably anonymous - said: "It is simply a business. There is cold storage in South Africa. There is freight forwarding in East Africa. It is not purely a shipping company."

The Barclays are so far silent on whether their thrust into the leisure sector might on the shipping side take them into the operation of cruise liners.

What the secretive brothers will make of Ellerman remains far from clear. But they have survived in the difficult world of property. Their public shyness, according to one executive with them for a time, veils qualities that include straight-forward dealing with individuals and an accessibility within the company.

Derek Harris

The brothers' shyness veils straightforward dealing and accessibility to staff

which had for many years operated a chain of temperance hotels under the chairmanship of Sir Cyril Black. The First National Bank of Boston guaranteed the transaction which was carried through by one of the many Barclays companies, Shireliffe, which had authorized share capital of £10m.

The offer document in consequence did not tell the world very much about the affairs of Barclays Hotels.

North, already in losses, had started to sell off some hotels. But Barclays took on nine, four of them in the London area and four on the south coast, with another in Surrey.

A number have been sold off. One of those remaining is the Cadogan, and there is known to be one more at Worthing.

Early this year the brothers were on the move again. The *Euromoney Syndication Guide* reported that M. F. North had arranged a £23m financing deal for seven years through the First National Bank of Boston.

By the end of February, through the North operation, the Barclays had tendered

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds			
Unit Name	Current Price	Previous Price	Change
1. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
2. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
3. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
4. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
5. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
6. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
7. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
8. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
9. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
10. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
11. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
12. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
13. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
14. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
15. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
16. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
17. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
18. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
19. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
20. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
21. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
22. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
23. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
24. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
25. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
26. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
27. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
28. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
29. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
30. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
31. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
32. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
33. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
34. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
35. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
36. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
37. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
38. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
39. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
40. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
41. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
42. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
43. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
44. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
45. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
46. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
47. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
48. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
49. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
50. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
51. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
52. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
53. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
54. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
55. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
56. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
57. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
58. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
59. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
60. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
61. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
62. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
63. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
64. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
65. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
66. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
67. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
68. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
69. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
70. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
71. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
72. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
73. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
74. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
75. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
76. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
77. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
78. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
79. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
80. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
81. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
82. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
83. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
84. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
85. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
86. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
87. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
88. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
89. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
90. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
91. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
92. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
93. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
94. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
95. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
96. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
97. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
98. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
99. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05
100. American Overseas Fund	10.15	10.10	+0.05

MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

Audiotronic shares rebound

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin, Oct 3. Dealings end, Oct 14. Closing day, Oct 17. Settlement day, Oct 24.

It looks as though the worst may be over for Audiotronic Holdings, the troubled electronic distributor, brought to market by the Lasky family in 1972.

Yesterday the shares rebounded 3p to 17p just a 1½p short of the year's high — on hopes that after six years of heavy losses the group was ready to break even, and possibly turn in a pretax profit of around £400,000 next year.

This came after a meeting in the City between the company and broker Grenfell & Colgrave who reckons the shares are a good recovery bet. Apparently the group has just been awarded the distribution rights of a new German telephone system made in the Far East. The system can handle six separate lines and serve 12 extensions at a time, and could be a big money spinner for Audiotronic, which has had more than its share of ups and downs in recent years.

Shares in the company were offered by the Lasky family in 1972 at 140p, but the venture soon ran into trouble, so the group turned to Mr Geoffrey Rose, the company "doctor".

who eventually sold off the Lasky retail chain to Ladbrokes. After the departure of Mr Rose the reins were taken over by Mr Aziz Khan Panni, managing director and former deputy

Shares of BOC Group expanded 7p to 235p yesterday helped by a feeling of renewed optimism in the City. Next week the group is flying out a party of four analysts to view its US operation, including Linc. This has led to speculation that the end of Arico's profits plateau may be in sight.

financial editor of the *Sunday Times*, who, according to Grenfell, seems to have put Audiotronic on the right frequency.

Elsewhere, the equity market enjoyed a new lease of life helped by the overnight strength of Wall Street. The FT index closed 3.6 higher at 7114.

Among the leaders Tesco, the store group, raced away after hours with a jump of 8p to 174p on persistent buying. Earlier this week one broker arranged a "put through" of 3 million shares (1 per cent of the company) and dealers said that a similar amount had been picked up by one aggressive buyer yesterday.

GKN also enjoyed a return to favour after Birmingham-based broker Albert E. Sharp arranged a seminar for the group. The shares responded with a jump to 169p before closing at 164p — a rise on the day of 4p.

Glits spent a quiet day, but managed to hold on to earlier gains of around 25p, while on the foreign exchange the pound rose 0.6 cents to \$1.4925.

Shares of Crest Nicholson, the housing to leisure group, appear to be running ahead of events. Yesterday they closed 4p dearer at 91p ahead of a meeting with brokers Laing & Cruckshank later today.

Callens Stores, the grocery chain, encountered speculative support with the "A" rising 21p to 210p and the ordinary 25p to 258p. Reports Market reports suggest rival Lennons had sold its entire 5.5 per cent stake.

Insurance broker Stewart Wrightson, the subject of several bullish bidders' circulars recently, held talks with bidders Grieverson Grant on Wednesday. The meeting appears to have confirmed Grieverson's earlier findings that the group has got to grips with its problems and is probably now due for a re-rating. The shares rose 7p to 253p.

Albert Fisher Group, the fruit and vegetable trading company, yesterday agreed the £1.4m acquisition of F. J. Need (Crown), a private company which specializes in buying, selling and packing cheese. Net assets of Need are £783,000.

and the company made pretax profits of £185,000 last year on sales of £9.3m. Last night the shares of Albert Fisher closed up 1p at 51p.

First time dealings in Coin Industries, manufacturer of electronic coin accepting equipment, were subdued. The 3.7 million shares were offered by brokers Grieverson Grant at a minimum tender price of 100p, but with all applications accepted in full the group could only achieve a striking price of 105p.

So yesterday's opening price of 108p came as no real surprise. At this level the group is valued at just over £12m.

But Wednesday's newcomer Atlantic Computers continued to improve on its striking price of 230p. The shares ended the day at 258p — a premium of 28p.

The prospect of more outside taking stakes in Stock Exchange member firms helped shares of Smith Bros, one of London's two publicly quoted jobbing firms, which closed 5p up at 54p. Finance For Industry already owns 750,000 of the ordinary shares.



1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yield	P/E
100	100	100	Admiral	100	0	0	0
101	101	101	Admiral	101	0	0	0
102	102	102	Admiral	102	0	0	0
103	103	103	Admiral	103	0	0	0
104	104	104	Admiral	104	0	0	0
105	105	105	Admiral	105	0	0	0
106	106	106	Admiral	106	0	0	0
107	107	107	Admiral	107	0	0	0
108	108	108	Admiral	108	0	0	0
109	109	109	Admiral	109	0	0	0
110	110	110	Admiral	110	0	0	0

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yield	P/E
111	111	111	Admiral	111	0	0	0
112	112	112	Admiral	112	0	0	0
113	113	113	Admiral	113	0	0	0
114	114	114	Admiral	114	0	0	0
115	115	115	Admiral	115	0	0	0
116	116	116	Admiral	116	0	0	0
117	117	117	Admiral	117	0	0	0
118	118	118	Admiral	118	0	0	0
119	119	119	Admiral	119	0	0	0
120	120	120	Admiral	120	0	0	0

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yield	P/E
121	121	121	Admiral	121	0	0	0
122	122	122	Admiral	122	0	0	0
123	123	123	Admiral	123	0	0	0
124	124	124	Admiral	124	0	0	0
125	125	125	Admiral	125	0	0	0
126	126	126	Admiral	126	0	0	0
127	127	127	Admiral	127	0	0	0
128	128	128	Admiral	128	0	0	0
129	129	129	Admiral	129	0	0	0
130	130	130	Admiral	130	0	0	0

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yield	P/E
131	131	131	Admiral	131	0	0	0
132	132	132	Admiral	132	0	0	0
133	133	133	Admiral	133	0	0	0
134	134	134	Admiral	134	0	0	0
135	135	135	Admiral	135	0	0	0
136	136	136	Admiral	136	0	0	0
137	137	137	Admiral	137	0	0	0
138	138	138	Admiral	138	0	0	0
139	139	139	Admiral	139	0	0	0
140	140	140	Admiral	140	0	0	0

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yield	P/E
141	141	141	Admiral	141	0	0	0
142	142	142	Admiral	142	0	0	0
143	143	143	Admiral	143	0	0	0
144	144	144	Admiral	144	0	0	0
145	145	145	Admiral	145	0	0	0
146	146	146	Admiral	146	0	0	0
147	147	147	Admiral	147	0	0	0
148	148	148	Admiral	148	0	0	0
149	149	149	Admiral	149	0	0	0
150	150	150	Admiral	150	0	0	0

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yield	P/E
151	151	151	Admiral	151	0	0	0
152	152	152	Admiral	152	0	0	0
153	153	153	Admiral	153	0	0	0
154	154	154	Admiral	154	0	0	0
155	155	155	Admiral	155	0	0	0
156	156	156	Admiral	156	0	0	0
157	157	157	Admiral	157	0	0	0
158	158	158	Admiral	158	0	0	0
159	159	159	Admiral	159	0	0	0
160	160	160	Admiral	160	0	0	0

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yield	P/E
161	161	161	Admiral	161	0	0	0
162	162	162	Admiral	162	0	0	0
163	163	163	Admiral	163	0	0	0
164	164	164	Admiral	164	0	0	0
165	165	165	Admiral	165	0	0	0
166	166	166	Admiral	166	0	0	0
167	167	167	Admiral	167	0	0	0
168	168	168	Admiral	168	0	0	0
169	169	169	Admiral	169	0	0	0
170	170	170	Admiral	170	0	0	0

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yield	P/E
171	171	171	Admiral	171	0	0	0
172	172	172	Admiral	172	0	0	0
173	173	173	Admiral	173	0	0	0
174	174	174	Admiral	174	0	0	0
175	175	175	Admiral	175	0	0	0
176	176	176	Admiral	176	0	0	0
177	177	177	Admiral	177	0	0	0
178	178	178	Admiral	178	0	0	0
179	179	179	Admiral	179	0	0	0
180	180	180	Admiral	180	0	0	0

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yield	P/E
181	181	181	Admiral	181	0	0	0
182	182	182	Admiral	182	0	0	0
183	183	183	Admiral	183	0	0	0
184	184	184	Admiral	184	0	0	0
185	185	185	Admiral	185	0	0	0
186	186	186	Admiral	186	0	0	0
187	187	187	Admiral	187	0	0	0
188	188	188	Admiral	188	0	0	0
189	189	189	Admiral	189	0	0	0
190	190	190	Admiral	190	0	0	0

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yield	P/E
191	191	191	Admiral	191	0	0	0
192	192	192	Admiral	192	0	0	0
193	193	193	Admiral	193	0	0	0
194	194	194	Admiral	194	0	0	0
195	195	195	Admiral	195	0	0	0
196	196	196	Admiral	196	0	0	0
197	197	197	Admiral	197	0	0	0
198	198	198	Admiral	198	0	0	0
199	199	199	Admiral	199	0	0	0
200	200	200	Admiral	200	0	0	0

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yield	P/E
201	201	201	Admiral	201	0	0	0
202	202	202	Admiral	202	0	0	0
203	203	203	Admiral	203	0	0	0
204	204	204	Admiral	204	0	0	0
205	205	205	Admiral	205	0	0	0
206	206	206	Admiral	206	0	0	0
207	207	207	Admiral	207	0	0	0
208	208	208	Admiral	208	0	0	0
209	209	209	Admiral	209	0	0	0
210	210	210	Admiral	210	0	0	0

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yield	P/E
211	211	211	Admiral	211	0	0	0
212	212	212	Admiral	212	0	0	0
213	213	213	Admiral	213	0	0	0
214	214	214	Admiral	214	0	0	0
215	215	215	Admiral	215	0	0	0
216	216	216	Admiral	216	0	0	0
217	217	217	Admiral	217	0	0	0
218	218	218	Admiral	218	0	0	0
219	219	219	Admiral	219	0	0	0
220	220	220	Admiral	220	0	0	0

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yield	P/E
221	221	221	Admiral	221	0	0	0
222	222	222	Admiral	222	0	0	0
223	223	223	Admiral	223	0	0	0
224	224	224	Admiral	224	0	0	0
225	225	225	Admiral	225	0	0	0
226	226	226	Admiral	226	0	0	0
227	227	227	Admiral	227	0	0	0
228	228	228	Admiral	228	0	0	0
229	229	229	Admiral	229	0	0	0
230	230	230	Admiral	230	0	0	0

1982/83	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Yield	P/E
231	231	231	Admiral	231	0	0	0
232	232	232	Admiral	232	0	0	0
233	233	233	Admiral	233	0	0	0
234	234	234	Admiral	234	0	0	0
235	235	235	Admiral	235	0	0	0
236	236	236	Admiral	236	0	0	0
237	237	237	Admiral	237	0	0	0
238	238	238	Admiral	238	0	0	0
239	239	239	Admiral	239	0	0	0

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 **Contest** All News and information service, available to everybody, whether you have a television or not.

6.30 **Breakfast Time** with Frank Bough and Fern Britton. Today's special features are Pop News, with Mike Smith (between 7.45 and 8.00) and Food and Cooking, with Glynis Christian (8.30-8.50). Other regular items include news at 6.50, and half-hourly news at 8.45 and 9.15. Sport at 8.45, 7.15 and 8.15. Today's Papers at 7.15 and 8.15 and TV Choice (8.45-7.00).

9.30 **Labour Party Conference 1983** Live coverage of the first morning's business. More at 11.00, with highlights in Newsnight at 10.40. The reporting team: Sir Robin Day and David Dimbleby.

10.30 **Play School**: The Hippopotamus Ponds a Friend, by Sue Peto: 10.55 Play Ideas: new about children's TV programmes.

10.55 **Labour Party Conference 1983**: back to Brighton.

12.30 **News After News** with Richard Whitmore and Judi Lines: 12.57 Financial Report. And sub-titled: News.

1.00 **Publicist** Meet Ona: The finalists of this year's competition are in the foyer-studio. Plus an interview, and song, from Richard Carpenter who, with sister Karen, formed the singing duo The Carpenters. 1.45 Little Misses and The Milder Men for the kiddies.

2.00 **International Go!** Quarter-final coverage of the Sunbury World Chess Championships, from Wentworth. More on BBC 2 at 3.00 and at 11.00 pm tonight.

2.25 **Racing from Ascot** the 2.30 and 3.05 (Bushby Stakes) and the 3.40.

3.55 **Play School** It's Friday. The guest is Fraser Wilson: 4.20 Newsnight with some well-known voices: 4.25 Jackanory: Kenneth Williams reads from Norman Hunter's *Snake and the Snake*. 4.40 *Heavenly* It's the King's cartoon. 4.50 *Crackjack*: Comedy magic from The Great Sopranos. Plus the celebrity final of *Take a Letter*. 5.35 The Amazing Adventures of Morph.

5.40 **News** with Jan Leeming: 6.05 *News East* at 6.30. Friday Sportsnight: The sports programme that attempts (and often succeeds in achieving) an oblique approach to its subject.

6.50 **Show Business**: Curtain up on a new series about the world of entertainment. Presenter Mike Smith is backed up by reporters Sally James, Annalisa Rice, Richard Skinner, and by veteran showbusiness specialist Peter Noble.

7.15 **Film** One Million Years BC (1969) Naugle, Kiefer, warring tribes and lots of prehistoric monsters. Miss Welch's movie debut is not without its visual compensations. Director: Don Chaffey.

8.50 **Points of View**: Viewers hear their names mentioned by Barry Took with Sue Lawley.

9.25 **The 1983 House of the Year**: Show: Main event at Wembley Arena tonight is the Cross and Blackwell Trophy.

10.45 **Now Get Out of That!** A race against the clock by two teams, one in the office, the other American: 11.15 News.

11.20 **Film** The Great White Hope (1970) Screen re-telling of the true story of Jack Jefferson, the black boxer whose life and career were ruined by racial prejudice. Starring James Earl Jones. Directed by Martin Ritt. Ends at 1.05am.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 105.3kHz/285m; 108.9kHz/275m; Radio 2: 69.8kHz/433m; 90.9kHz/330m; Radio 3: 121.5kHz/247m; VHF 90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz/1500m; VHF 92-95; LBC 115.2kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital 154.8kHz/194m; VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 145.8kHz/206m; VHF 94.9; World Service FM 64.8kHz/463m.

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TV-am

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TV-LONDON

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BEC 2

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Parkinson affair secretary sues for libel

By Richard Evans

Miss Sara Keays, who is expecting Mr Cecil Parkinson's child next January, yesterday issued a writ for libel over a *Private Eye* magazine report linking her with another Conservative MP.

Last night that MP, Mr Marcus Fox, said he was also considering legal action over the short article in the satirical magazine's Grovel column, which he described as "a pack of lies."

Mr Jeffrey Wicks, solicitor for Miss Keays, has described the allegation in *Private Eye* as "grotesquely untrue."

Mr Fox, MP for Shipley since 1970, said he had consulted a firm of London solicitors over the article. "They are consulting counsel and I will be coming down for a meeting with them in the next few days to decide what action to take. But all my instincts are that we shall issue a writ."

Mr Fox said he had not concealed the fact he knew Miss Keays or her family. "Cecil Parkinson and I were the whips' office together. She was his secretary and I met her just as he would meet my secretary."

After working for Mr Parkinson for eight years, Miss Keays went to Brussels in 1980 as secretary to Mr Roy Jenkins, then president of the European Commission. It was almost certainly during her stay in Europe that Mr Parkinson proposed marriage.

She gained the job abroad with the help of a personal recommendation by Mr Parkinson. But it was not a happy time for Miss Keays because her mother was taken ill with cancer shortly after her arrival.

Miss Beale, a friend of Miss Keays who worked with her in Brussels, said last night: "It was a very distressing time for her because her mother was extremely ill and subsequently died."

Miss Beale said Miss Keays returned regularly to England to see her mother at the family home near Bath.

It was about this time, in 1980, according to Colonel Hastings Keays, Sara's father, that Mr Parkinson told him he intended to marry his daughter. "I feel let down by him, bitterly let down."

Miss Keays, who still works for Mr Parkinson in Westminster, last night described Miss Keays as a lovely person with a sense of fun and an interest in politics and a supporter of the Conservatives.

Although the two women were close friends, Miss Beale said she had no inkling about Miss Keays's affair with Mr Parkinson. "I am very baffled and have no idea why this has all come out now. I am totally perplexed and feel very sorry for her."

Miss Keays, who intends to bring up her child in a cottage near her father's home, lived until recently in a three-bedroomed town house in Kensington, south London. She said it earlier this year for £60,000.

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Women's hand fails to rock Labour Party



Heady days: The nine Labour MPs who were among the 14 women in the 1929 Parliament. The photograph, taken from a new book, *Those were the days*, shows Miss Margaret Bondfield, the first woman Cabinet Minister, (centre), with (left to right): Miss S. Lawrence, Dr Ethel Beatham, Mrs M. Hamilton, Dr Marion Phillips, Lady Cynthia Mosley, Miss Ellen Wilkinson, Miss E. Pictou-Turbervill, and Miss Jenny Lee.

Women have long felt they get a bad deal in the Labour Party. As recently as 1970 Labour fielded no more than 29 candidates in a general election. At this week's Brighton conference Miss Lesley Courcouf upstaged her fellow delegates for remarks that were "sexist, rubbish."

PHILIP WEBSTER reports on the fate of proposals debated yesterday that aimed to give women a bigger say.

No one attempts to deny that women have little say in the Labour Party and nowhere is it more evident than at annual conferences.

Of the trade union delegates at Brighton this week, 91.5 per cent are male (55.5 per cent of the delegates from constituency Labour parties (447 men to 158 women) and 73.7 per cent of the representatives from socialist societies.

Women's influence on the party's supreme policy-making body is minimal, particularly as the constituency parties where their representation is at least noticeable, have less than 10 per cent of the votes at conference. In addition, only 10 of Labour's 208 MPs are women.

Yesterday the trade union block votes, accounting for about 90 per cent of conference,



Miss Lesley Courcouf: Upstaged delegates

voting, were again mobilized to prevent most of a series of reforms proposed by the Labour Women's action committee set up three years ago.

A motion which would have allowed the Labour women's conference to elect the five members of the women's section of the national executive was rejected as the unions guarded their rights to elect them and determine the political complexion of the NEC.

The move was opposed on the ground that as the NEC is answerable to the conference, a

significant part of it should not be elected elsewhere.

Labour's women activists insist that the national executive is unsympathetic to their aims. Loud protests have been made this week about the allegedly restrictive manner in which the NEC applies the rule which allows constituency parties to send as extra woman delegate if more than 1500 affiliated members are women.

Miss Ann Pettifor, secretary of the action committee, claims that such action is symbolic of the innate conservatism throughout the party towards moves to increase the rights of women members. "We are totally male dominated," she says.

She says that in the conference debate on low pay not one woman was called to speak, although 75 per cent of the low paid are women.

Little satisfaction is drawn from the fact that in the general election the party fielded 77 women parliamentary candidates, its highest ever.

The NEC in its annual report to the conference admitted that the figure was abysmally small.

Miss Joyce Gould, Labour's chief women's officer and assistant national agent, admits that women are badly discriminated against in the party but

she, and the women's action committee, would concede that the situation may be beginning to improve.

The figures for women's attendance at the conference show a small improvement. Yesterday's conference rejected, but by a narrow majority, the proposal to convene a "rules conference" to draw up a constitution for the party's women's organization.

The proposal will come back next year with greater hopes of success.

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Labour women candidates and MPs

Candidates

1918 4 - 10

1922 10 - 3

1923 14 - 3

1924 22 - 1

1929 30 - 8

1931 36 - 1

1935 35 - 1

1945 45 - 21

1950 42 - 14

1954 43 - 14

1959 36 - 13

1964 33 - 18

1968 30 - 19

1970 29 - 10

1974 Feb 40 - 13

1974 Oct 50 - 18

1975 52 - 11

1983 74 - 10

Letter from Blenheim

Tapestry of peace woven from war

The view from the hill was like one of those tapestry panoramas that hang in English stately homes: distant bluish hills, half hidden by light mist, autumnal fields of dull greenland - ochre, occasional lonely trees, the foreground criss-crossed by hedges and a small stream.

You could just see the outline of the old castle at Höchstädt on the horizon. To the left the sleepy cluster of red roofs and farm buildings gave the little Bavarian village an eternal look - although it rose from the ashes of the settlement burnt down on that fateful August day in 1704. And there, straight ahead, rose the church spire of Blindheim, known to the English-speaking world as Blenheim.

I mentally filled in the tapestry as Herr Georg Strobel, a local teacher, pointed out the battle lines. Over these were Marlborough's troops, huddled from their march through Germany. In the centre was the swarming French Army, unbeaten for five years. Drawn up behind the marshy Nebelbach stream (now no more than a drainage ditch), Prince Eugene, who had made a secret rendezvous with Marlborough the previous day, held his forces behind the hill beside us.

The morning mist lifted. The French were taken by surprise. The battle began at 12.30 and raged for almost three hours until both sides paused, exhausted.

Then came Marlborough's breakthrough - over there, see, where the French centre was weak. It was so clever, three times he charged and withdrew. But on the fourth time the English drew their swords and stood their ground.

I could almost hear the horses neighing, see the gunsmoke, blood and panic the French, under the Comte de Tallard, were beaten back to the Danube where thousands drowned. The carnage was colossal at a cost of 12,000 casualties Marlborough and his Austrian allies took prisoner - 13,000 Frenchmen and the hapless Bavarians who had unwisely sided with them, and killed, wounded or caused to be drowned another 18,000.

The final surrender came at dusk at Blenheim Church. "Excellency, you have just defeated the flower of the French Army", Tallard told

his victor before being led away into a decade's captivity in England.

A small plaque in the church wall marks the spot. There are no other monuments on the battlefield, nothing to guide the occasional English tourist looking for the site of one of Europe's most decisive battles. Only a lichen-stained unmarked cross stands at a road junction outside Blenheim, near the old mill - still in use - where Marlborough spent his victory night. Beside it now stands a stone shaped like a sword thrust in the ground, erected on the battle's 250th anniversary in 1954, with today's historical perspective, a pair of scales where "Pax, Amor, Vita" outweighs "Odium, Bellum, Mors".

John Churchill named his huge pile at Woodstock in Oxfordshire after this Bavarian village, and his descendant Winston came here twice to see the namesake of his birthplace - in 1919 and again in 1929. After the war, Herr Strobel said, the mayor of Höchstädt used to commemorate the battle every year with a speech in English.

Höchstädt is aware of the polite disappointment that British visitors, including occasional detachments from the Rhine Army, express in finding that so little commemorates the battle. On its 300th anniversary in 1980 Höchstädt therefore decided to put itself more on the map and the profitable tourist trail by opening a Blenheim museum complete with diorama showing Marlborough's forces at the decisive breakthrough.

Herr Strobel, a museum historian, is to be the director and is now searching the archives and writing to British military museums to get the right uniforms and historical detail.

Plenty has already come from beneath the fields at Blenheim: every year farmers turn up coins, ordnance, buckles and the bones of death. Much came from the Danube when it was realigned, including a complete French carriage. The best booty, however, was quickly carted off in 1704 by the victors, including Herr Strobel's relatives with a grisly 30 carriages full of the most comely French courtiers.

Michael Binyan

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, attends a performance of the "Plaza of Fountains" by Peterborough Gilbert and Sullivan Players to mark their Diamond Jubilee, Key Theatre, Peterborough, 7.25.

The Duchess of Gloucester attends the City of London Solicitors' Company 75th Anniversary Charitable Ball, Guildhall, London, 7.10.

Last chance to see

Kilo-formed glass by Colin Reid; blown glass by Anthony Stern; pinched and painted porcelain by Nicole Johns; silk cast bone china by Penny Fowler; jewelry by Vivian Fenn; and wood engraving plates by Sarah Van Nieuwer, at the Katherine House Gallery, The Parade, Marlborough, Wilt; Wed to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 11 to 4, closed Mon & Tues (ends today).

Paintings by Jim Andrews, The Gallery, Lloyds House, Lloyd Street, Manchester; Mon to Fri 9 to 5.30, Thursday 9 to 5 (ends Oct 8), 11 to 5.

Organ recital by Margaret Fingerhut, Holburne of Mendips Museum, Bath, 7.30.

Organ recital by Nigel Davidson, Colston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol 12.45.

Concert by The Consort of Music, Bluecoat Hall, School Lane, Liverpool, 7.30.

"Comus" opera by Thomas Arne, Holme Pierrepont Hall, Nottingham, 7.30 (also Oct 8, 9, 14, 15 and 16).

Talks and Lectures

Introducing the Mission to Seamen, by Rev Bill Dowd, Church's Hotel, Brewery Road, Doncaster, 7.30.

General

Goose Fair, Forest Recreation Ground, Gregory Boulevard, Nottingham, 12 noon to midnight.

Annual Book Fair, the Guildhall, Cambridge, 2 to 8, Oct 8, 10 to 5.

South Holland Festival: Arts and Crafts exhibition, Elbow Hall, South Holland, Lincolnshire, 10 to 9, Sat Oct 8, 10 to 4.

Finchcocks Fair, Finchcocks, Gwent, Kent (today, tomorrow and Sun), 11 to 5.

Exhibitions in progress

Paintings by Peter Curran at the Ginnel Gallery, Lloyds House, Lloyd Street, Manchester; Mon to Fri 9 to 5.30, Thursday 9 to 5 (ends Oct 28).

The George Washington Wilson collection, Victorian Glasgow in photographs, at the Collins Gallery, University of Strathclyde, 22 Richmond Street, Glasgow; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 12 to 4, closed Sun (ends Oct 29).

Sculptor's drawings 1832-1982, Glynn Vivian Art Gallery and Museum, Alexandra Road, Swansea; Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5, closed Sun (ends Oct 29).

Oxford University and College Portraits since 1945, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford; Tues to Sat 10 to 4, Sun 2 to 4, (ends Oct 23).

National Day

East Germany's National Day today marks the implementation of the country's first Constitution in 1949. The document, which had been approved by a people's congress in March of the same year, formally transformed the country from a Soviet-occupied zone to the German Democratic Republic. The first Constitution was replaced by a new one in April, 1968.

Top films

Top box-office films in London

- 1 (2) Staying Alive
- 2 (2) War Games
- 3 (2) Breathless
- 4 (2) Octopussy
- 5 (2) Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence
- 6 (2) Heat and Dust
- 7 (2) Psycho II
- 8 (2) The Never Never
- 9 (2) Danton
- 10 (2) Yellow Beard

The top five in the provinces

- 1 Staying Alive
- 2 Rocky/Hooky II/Hooky III
- 3 Breathless
- 4 War Games
- 5 Educational Rite

Screen International

Food prices

Not everyone can, or wants to, shop at Harrods, but the new enlarged food hall is worth visiting if only to see the superb range of food on display. For the next three weeks the emphasis is on food from Britain, the quality and variety of which show that there is no reason why we should ever tolerate the second rate. Among the special events are daily meetings of shellfish, including oysters, winkles and whelks. There are also demonstrations of oyster opening, crab dressing, butter sculpture, bacon boning and pie raising and displays of pheasant wild duck, grouse and partridge. Prices on the whole may be somewhat higher than in your local supermarket, but there are bargains like smoked salmon, farmhouse Cheddar at 21.39, For something different for breakfast try venison sausages.

Home produced lamb prices have soared and Sainsbury's have made sharp reductions with whole leg, down to £1.05 a pound, and whole shoulder at 72p a pound. With fewer pigs coming on the market, pork prices are firmer. Devonshire list leg at 84p to £1.20, a pound, and boneless shoulder 88p to £1.30 a pound. Recent good weather has meant a further drop in fish prices of 2p to 3p a pound, national averages are £1.24 for cod fillets, and £1.23 for haddock and 45p for mackerel.

The pound

Australia \$ 1.70 1.62

Canada \$ 29.38 28.78

Denmark Kr 14.58 13.80

France Fr 6.72 6.32

Germany DM 12.17 11.67

Greece Dr 147.88 139.00

Hong Kong \$ 13.00 12.40

Ireland Pt 1.28 1.23

Italy Lira 2415.00 2315.00

Japan Yen 363.00 345.00

Netherlands Gld 4.50 4.27

Norway Kr 11.28 10.75

Portugal Esc 191.00 181.00

Spain Ptas 160.00 150.00

Sweden Kr 12.02 11.45

Switzerland Fr 2.26 2.09

USA \$ 1.53 1.48

Yugoslavia Dnr 182.00 178.00

Times for small denominations bank notes only, as supplied by Bankers' Book International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency holders.

Retail Price Index: 338.0

London: The FT Index closed up 3.6 at 711.4.

Roads

London and South-east: A4008

Contrail and single lane traffic in Blackbird Hill and Nassen Lane. A219: Stop-go boards out-of-park in Wimbledon Parkside. A21: Auto sign in Lambeth.

Middle